

TOMORROW

Ring... Bernard Levin sings the praises of the masterly Hall-Solti Bayreuth production...

US 'show of force' criticized

President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico opened talks with President Reagan in La Paz with an appeal for political dialogue...

Guns charge

A man from the Irish Republic was charged in Le Havre, Normandy, with illegally transporting weapons and ammunition...

Tamil toll

The leader of the main Tamil political party in Sri Lanka said in Delhi that last month's anti-Tamil race riots probably claimed 2,000 lives on the islands...

Gormley better

The condition of Lord Gormley, who suffered a stroke, is continuing to improve at Charing Cross Hospital, London. He even picked a horse race winner, a spokesman said.

Karachi riot

Police used tear gas in Karachi when a crowd of 20,000 people demonstrated against martial law under President Zia ul-Haq was attacked by his supporters...

Davey report

Attempts by the police in Coventry to restrain Mr James Davey while questioning him were responsible for his death, an independent report says.

Nato fears

The Mediterranean, once very much a Nato lake, is causing the allies concern as resources are stretched and Soviet naval power grows.

Pit pressure

The National Coal Board is renewing pressure for the closure of uneconomic pits after reporting an overall loss of £111m in the last financial year.

System X test

System X, the British-designed electronic digital telephone exchange, is competing for the £20m Hull City Council contract, which it must win to prove its viability.

Prost wins

Alain Prost, of France, in a turbo Renault, won the Austrian Grand Prix to lengthen his lead in the formula one motor racing championship.

Leader page, 11 Letters: On the green belt, from Mr S. Chapman, MP, and Mr R. W. G. Smith; alternative medicine, from Dr R. D. Tonkin and others...

Table with 4 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Bridge, Business, Chess, Court, Crossword, Diary, Events, Law Report, Prem Bonds, Religion, Science, Sport, TV & Radio, Theatres, etc.

Lawson heads for cash struggle with Heseltine

By Phillip Webster, Political Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson and Mr Michael Heseltine are heading for a confrontation over the rising level of defence spending. Mr Lawson, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, is authoritatively expected to question seriously in his first public spending review the necessity for Britain to extend its commitment to Nato's target of a 3 per cent per year growth in defence expenditure.

The commitment expires in 1985-86, but a decision on whether it should continue in 1986-87 will have to be taken soon. Mr Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, is expected to seek the renewal of the commitment for that year and well beyond.

Nkomo ends British exile today

By Rodney Cowton Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Opposition in Zimbabwe, is to fly back to Harare today after five months in exile in Britain.

The timing of his return will have been strongly influenced by a desire to defend his seat in the Zimbabwe House of Assembly, against a move due on Wednesday which would dispossess him of it.

Chad leader ready to defend south

N'jamena (Reuters) - President Hissene Habre's Government seems ready to defend the north of Chad after the capture of Faya-Largeau by ex-President Goukouni Oueddine's forces last week, according to informed sources. It seems determined, however, to make a stand in the south.

Date with defiance for Gdansk

From Roger Boyes Warsaw Three years ago on August 14 Lech Walesa climbed into the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk to address a strike that was to trigger unrest throughout Poland and which eventually led to the birth of Solidarity.

12 die in Nigeria poll violence

Lagos (Reuters) - Twelve people were killed in western Nigeria during voting to elect state governors, according to reports here yesterday.

Industry on the alert for infiltrators

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor personnel director level on trouble-makers who would apply for jobs, not because they want a job but because they want to be placed in a position where they can cause industrial unrest", he said.

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Airline fare cuts may threaten summer standby

Airlines which fly the North Atlantic route hope to settle proposals for fares this winter in Montreal on Tuesday amid speculation that summer standby fares may be at risk (Nicholas Timmins writes).

Year in hand for BA sell-off

British Airways will be ready to be sold to the public by the autumn of 1984, almost a year ahead of schedule, Sir John King, chairman of the airline, said yesterday.

6-mile oil slick hits East Coast beaches

Police cleared holiday-makers from some beaches in Essex yesterday when a six-mile oil slick started to come ashore.

Campaign calm shattered

Ibadan residents said the city's 19 state elections had been tense since the announcement of the presidential election results early on Thursday.



Golden moment: Cram wins the 1,500 metres, with his fellow-Briton, Overtt, in fourth place.

Cram wins gold on last day at Helsinki

By Our Sports Staff

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Advertisement for 'Palace on Wheels' featuring a train and text: 'India's unique holiday concept. The Palace on Wheels. brings back to life the vintage splendours of the age of Maharajas, Viceroys and Governors-General we thought had gone forever.' Includes details about the train, itinerary, and contact information.



# NCB renews pressure for pit closures after losses of £111m

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board is renewing pressure for the closure of uneconomic pits after reporting an overall loss of £111m in the last financial year. Permission for the closure of two pits and two coking works employing a total of 2,500 men is expected after final appeals by the National Union of Mine-workers are heard this week. By the end of the 1983-84 financial year, the board expects to have shut at least 15 collieries, and the only question now in the minds of the industry's management is whether the new chairman, the former British Steel Corporation chief, Mr Ian MacGregor, will demand greater acceleration of the closure programme. A final appeal will be heard in London tomorrow over the fate of Cardowan, the last pit in Lanarkshire, which employs about 1,100 men. Two of the mine's three working faces have

been closed and the third is said to be very thin coal. More than 300 of the older men there have volunteered for redundancy payments and about 70 have transferred to other Scottish pits. The board regards Cardowan as a hopeless case. A second appeal tomorrow is over the fate of Brynlliw pit near Swansea in West Glamorgan. It employs 730 men and nearly £5m was spent on a modernization scheme in 1982. The board admits that it has ample reserves, but argues that it should close because the Central Electricity Generating Board is closing Carmarthen Bay power station, which takes most of the colliery's output. On Thursday there will be similar appeals against the closure of coking works at Coodely in south Wales and Fishburn, co Durham, which employ between them about 800 men.

In the case of those two plants, the board says that closure is inevitable because of the collapse of the market for coking coal due to the recession in the steel industry. The final appeals procedure is chaired by Mr James Cowan, NCB member for industrial relations and former chairman of the 11 Scottish pits. He reports to the full board, which usually announces its verdict within two weeks. The outcome of the appeals is being watched closely by leaders of the National Union of Mine-workers who are committed to holding a secret ballot "at the appropriate time" on industrial action to halt closures. Mr Michael McGahey, Communist president of Scottish pitmen, has said that the shutdown of Cardowan will be the first test of that policy.

## Group to help child gamblers

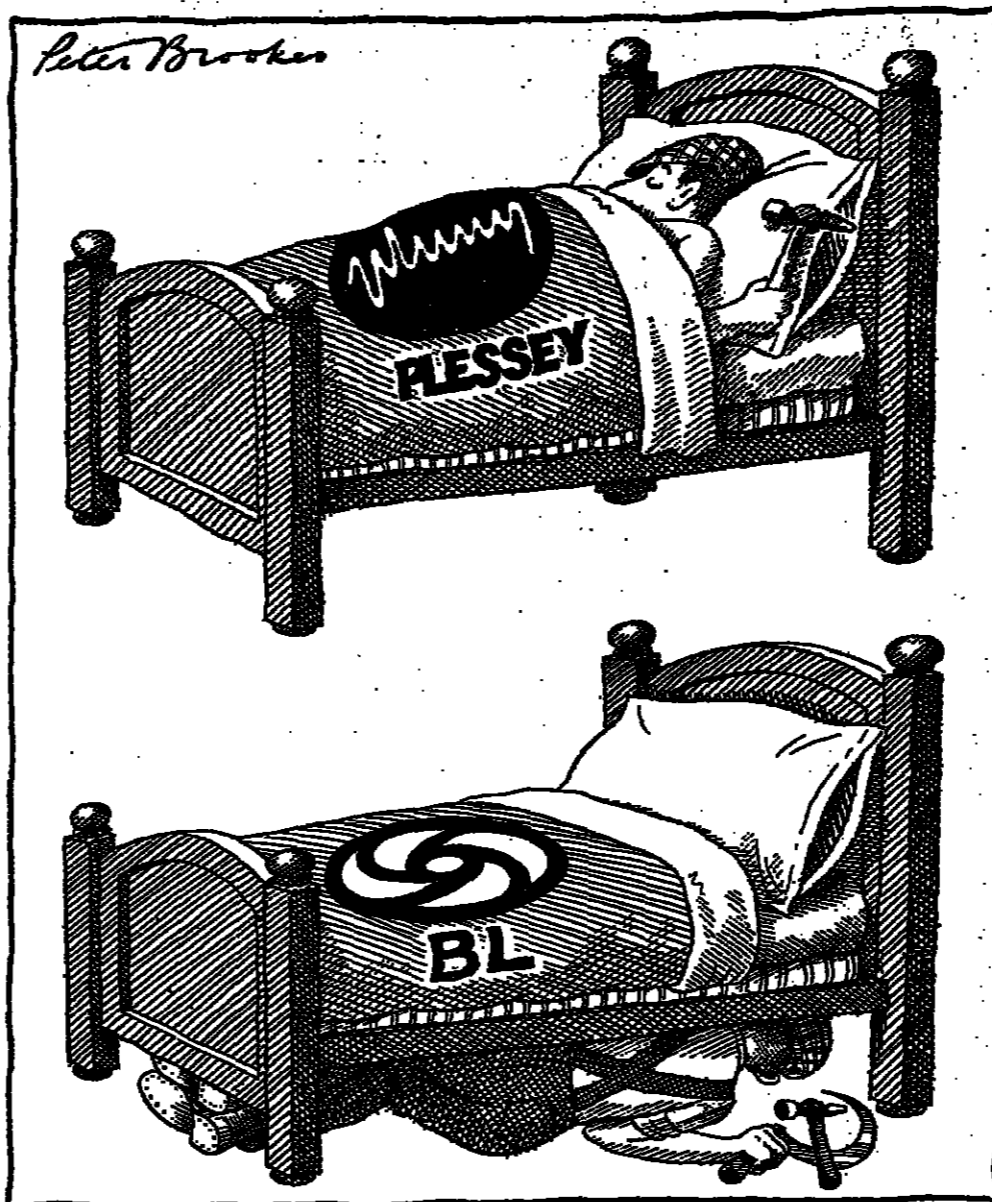
Gamblers Anonymous is to set up a junior branch for children addicted to playing gaming machines. The decision was made yesterday after the organization was told that there had been an "explosion" over the past 12 months in the number of youngsters hooked on gaming machines. It approved the scheme at its national conference in Birmingham. Members feared youngsters might feel that their problems were not that serious if they attended ordinary meetings and heard adults talking about losing huge sums of money. The conference also gave the go-ahead for a parents' branch of the sister organization, Gam Anon, which helps the relatives of gamblers. Delegates decided to issue a new teaching pack for schools warning of the dangers of gaming machines and they also told parents to look out for signs that children were gambling, such as a constant need for money, the disappearance of valuables from the house and unsociable behaviour. The organization said: "We have had hundreds of calls for help from parents who are worried their children have become addicted to these machines."

## Few apply for youth training places

By Our Labour Editor

School-leavers evidently are showing less than overwhelming interest in the Government's £1,000m Youth Training Scheme which is due to come into operation in less than a month's time. Fewer than one in 20 of the 460,000 available places had been filled at the last count. The Manpower Services Commission, which is implementing the ambitious programme designed to give every young person training and work experience, has arranged 98 per cent of the target places with employers. But by the end of June, the take-up was only 21,679. The commission says that the scheme is not yet in full swing and young people would not decide until the end of the summer holidays "whether they would be going into employment, further education or YTS". School-leavers opting for a YTS place will get an allowance of £25 a week from the Government, while employers will receive a subsidy of £1,850 a year. TUC leaders will urge Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, later this week to increase the allowance to £26.50 a week. Private managing agents

helping to operate the scheme are already claiming it is a success. Trans Promotions, of Guildford, reported yesterday that it had placed 100 young people with firms in Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex. It said that 70 of the school-leavers had been offered permanent jobs by the end of the year. But Mrs Josiane Wileman, the company's managing director, was critical about government presentation of the training scheme. "Unfortunately there are still too many young people who doubt seem to have any idea just what opportunities are being offered to them through the scheme." The commission rejected suggestions that the scheme had been under-publicized. The commission has spent more than £1.5m on national and regional advertising. Young people had also been told about the opportunities by the schools careers officers and further information was available at Job Centres. The scheme guarantees school-leavers a foundation year of training, education and work experience, including a minimum of 13 weeks off-the-job education and training. Although it has the official blessing of the TUC,



Hot-beds Infiltration of industry

## Leftist moles 'active for years'

By John Witherow

The planting of far leftists in key industries to infiltrate trade unions and foment unrest has been going on for many years, according to a former Trotskyist leader. Mr Roger Rosewell, one-time industrial organizer for the Socialist Workers Party who is now a Socialist Democrat, wrote a pamphlet last year, *Dealing With The Marxist Threat To Industry*. In it he said: "Sometimes ex-students are told to apply for jobs in selected companies - car factories have always been a prime target for this kind of infiltration. On other occasions foremen are used to give jobs to party members." His experience was reinforced by a former leader of the International Marxist Group, which has reformed as

the Socialist League and is said to be responsible for encouraging 13 of its members to falsify job applications to BL's Cowley plant. He said yesterday that the IMG had several members at Cowley during the 1970s, although they had been recruited internally rather than planted. The IMG emerged in the heady days of the 1960s as a small, tightly-knit revolutionary party. The IMG, which was then led by Tariq Ali, continued to build up a following throughout the 1970s in universities and polytechnics at the expense of the Communist Party. It had fewer than a thousand members, but the message was spread through a succession of newspapers,

*Black Dwarf, Red Mole and Red Weekly*. The combined membership of the far left groups, including the Socialist Workers Party and Workers Revolutionary Party, is estimated at between 6,000 and 10,000. Mr Frank Ward, public information officer for the Labour Party, said on BBC radio yesterday: "All through the history of the Trotskyist movements there has been this idea of the factory being the power unit, because if you stop the factory you can use it as a lever to change society." The Socialist League, the SWP and the WRP, unlike the Militant Tendency, have shown little interest in infiltrating the Labour Party. They believe change can only come through revolution.

## Murdered man found near M6

A murder inquiry was launched yesterday after a body was found in a country near Holme, Cumbria. The victim, a man aged between 30 and 35, had been battered to death and trussed up in a sleeping bag with plastic bags over his head and feet. The police believe the man could have been murdered anywhere in the country and dumped at the spot, which is near the M6. He is described as 5ft 11in tall, weighing 11 stone, with light brown hair. He was wearing dark brown trousers, commando type boots and a check shirt.

## Tebbit is tipped as chairman

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Norman Tebbit is being increasingly talked of in Conservative circles as a possible successor as party chairman to Mr Cecil Parkinson, who is expected to step down after the Tory conference in the autumn. Mr Tebbit, who is believed by MPs to be Mrs Margaret Thatcher's favourite is still expected to remain Secretary of State for Employment. Mr Parkinson succeeded Lord Thornycroft as chairman in September, 1981. He was rewarded for the key role he played in creating an election-winning machine with the post of Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in the post-election Cabinet reshuffle. It was always expected that he would serve for two years, like his predecessors. (Although Lord Thornycroft held the post from 1975 to 1981.) Other candidates for the chairmanship are believed to be Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr Ian Gow, Mrs Thatcher's parliamentary private secretary during the last Parliament, who became Minister for Housing and Construction after the election. Mr Michael Spicer, the deputy chairman, is not out of the running, but the fact that he is little known outside Westminster and has no ministerial experience might count against him. Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, is said to be a good outside bet. However, some MPs believe that rather than appointing Mr Tebbit now, Mrs Thatcher might prefer to appoint another candidate for the next two or three years and then bring him in to prepare for the next general election. The chairman before Lord Thornycroft were Lord Whitlaw, Lord Carrington, Mr Peter Thomas and Lord Barber.

## 'Poor law medicine returning'

By Our Political Reporter

Labour's health spokesman accused the Government yesterday of returning to the medicine of the Poor Law, after reports that patients are being nursed and treated in corridors at a leading teaching hospital. Mrs Gwyneth Duwoody, a candidate for Labour's deputy leadership, called for a statement by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, on allegations in The Sunday Times yesterday about the Royal Liverpool Hospital. The newspaper quoted the report of an internal working party which said that patients were frequently looked after for long periods on trolleys in corridors in the hospital's accident and emergency department. Other emergency patients were being turned away because of lack of beds, the report said. Consultants often sent "scouts" round the wards to find vacant beds for new patients, the newspaper said. The local community health council had claimed that some inpatients were moved into chairs while their beds were used for day-surgery cases. Mrs Duwoody said: "I understand that the local health authority is at present engaged in a £6,700,000 package of cuts in the Liverpool district which will even further increase the pressure on beds this hard pressed area."

## French charge three after arms find

By Roger Beardwood

A man from the Irish Republic was charged in Le Havre, Normandy, yesterday with illegally transporting weapons and ammunition. He was remanded in custody to Rouen Prison. Michael Christopher Macdonald, aged 27, from Dundalk, co Louth, was arrested in the Le Havre dock area on Friday. Two French citizens have been charged with complicity. French police seized what one source described as "a veritable arsenal" of arms, ammunition and explosives hidden in a lorry that was waiting for a ferry from Le Havre to the Irish Republic. The haul included 28 hand-guns, 12,000 rounds of ammunition, 100 magazines for Kalashnikov rifles, 22lb of explosives, 150 detonators, 50 yards of fuse and some grenades. All were hidden in a false fuel tank in a Volvo lorry, reported to have been carrying 26 tons of electro-mechanical components and assemblies addressed to a firm in Northern Ireland. Security forces in Ulster believe that both the Provisional IRA and the Irish National Liberation Army's effectiveness has been limited by a series of arms and ammunition finds during the past 12 months (Richard Ford writes from Belfast). Supergresses have given the

police details of terrorist supply routes from the Continent and the US. Security forces yesterday continued searching for three INLA terrorists who escaped after two colleagues were shot dead in a gun battle with the police in co Tyrone on Saturday. The men who died when an INLA ambush in a security check point in Dungannon went wrong were James Mallon, aged 27, from Keady, co Armagh, and Brendan Convery, aged 25, from Maghera, co Londonderry. Both men were known to the Royal Ulster Constabulary and had been living across the border in Dundalk for some time. Blood stains in the back of the car, which later crashed, indicated that two other gunmen involved in the attack may have been wounded. The police are also seeking the car's driver. The heavy exchange of fire also injured a police constable and a man aged 67. There was speculation that Mr Dominic McGlinchey, once described as "the most wanted man in Ireland", may have been involved in the incident. A motor mechanic, aged 29, from Londonderry, he has been on the run since he jumped bail in the republic last year and is wanted by detectives on both sides of the border.

## Three die in plastic tent blaze

A mother and her two children were killed and two girls were seriously burnt in a holiday camp fire in Co Durham yesterday. Mrs Norma Johnson, aged 23, a divorcee, and her daughter Tracy, aged five, died in their blazing tent at Witton Castle leisure park, three miles from their home in Blyth Avenue, St Helens, Auckland. Her son Brian, aged two, died hours later in the burns unit at Shotley Bridge Hospital, near Consett. Mrs Johnson's sister, Susan, aged 14, and her friend Jane Gray, aged 12, also of Blyth Avenue, were badly burnt. They were said to be critically ill in the same burns unit. Mother and daughter died when a fierce blaze ripped through their plastic tent in seconds on the last night of their six-day holiday. It was the first holiday Mrs Johnson and her children had ever had together and was arranged through the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children which provided the tent. The management at the leisure park reduced their ground rent specially to help them. Experts were trying last night to determine the cause of the fire which may have been started by campers. The party apparently did not know how to light a hurricane lamp which was left to them by another camper.

## Scrubland fires hit Scotland

Tayside scrub fire brigade was last night fighting to control two large scrubland fires between Aberfeldy and Perth. A blaze in the Amulree area had closed a stretch of the A26 road for two days, and was advancing on a 13-mile front, destroying more than 30 square miles of deep heather. At Bridge of Cally another fire was threatening two large forests and had destroyed 13 square miles of scrubland.

## Denning praises landscape idea

A council which has been in dispute with Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, about a wall he had built, has suggested it should come down and that the area should be landscaped. Lord Denning built the wall around part of his home which is near Whitchurch Town Hall in Hampshire. He said Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's suggestion was a good idea.

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## Fires charge

A man is to appear in court in Manchester today in connexion with fires at two nightclubs, a furniture store, a bank and a warehouse in the city centre on Saturday.

# Jenkin faces revolt by Tories over rate ceiling plan

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government's plan to curb big spending local authorities by "capping" the rates will face strong opposition from Conservative backbenchers when the Commons returns in the autumn. MPs are predicting a repeat of events in late 1981 when Conservative MPs and local authority associations forced Mr Michael Heseltine, who was then Secretary of State for the Environment, to drop legislation which would make councils hold referendums on ratepayers when they wanted to put up rates beyond a centrally-fixed limit. Some MPs, angry that the Government published its White Paper a few days after Parliament rose for the summer recess, are to seek an early meeting with Mr Patrick Jenkin, the present Secretary of State for the Environment, to warn him that the Bill expected early next year to implement the proposals will have a tough passage because it represents an unwarranted interference with local democracy. The publication of the proposals while MPs are away from Westminster means the opposition have not yet organized a campaign of action or counted heads for any potential rebellion. But one senior Conservative said yesterday: "The Government could quite easily get a bloody nose on this one."

The Government plans to impose a rates ceiling on consistently high spending councils from April, 1985, and to fix a maximum for every council in England and Wales. The Conservative controlled associations of both county and district councils have pledged their outright opposition, a factor which weighs heavily with MPs and, more particularly, with Conservative peers when the Bill gets to the Lords. Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, a long-standing critic of the Government's failure to reform the rates, said yesterday: "I was not asked to dispense with another form of democracy. My own government has brought in three local government measures which have had one unique quality; they have united Labour and Conservative against them."

Conservative MPs have urged the Government not to give Mr Kenneth Livingston the Greater London Council leader, an extra year in office, and have proposed the appointment of commissioners to run the council for the last year of its life. (Our Political Staff writes). Because the GLC is due to be abolished by 1986, the MPs fear that the Government may extend its present term by a year rather than hold the next GLC elections, which are scheduled for 1985.

The London MPs have urged Mr Jenkin to appoint a commissioner from each of the 32 London boroughs to run the GLC during its last year.

Mr John Wheeler, MP for Westminster North, said yesterday: "There is nothing very novel in this. The boroughs are the people who will anyway be taking over."

## Local councils 'lose' nearly £200m

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Councillors and officials have "lost" nearly £200m of public money, according to a study by a leading accountant. After examining councils' accounts, Mr Clive Sparrow, a consultant with Deloitte Haskins and Sells, found that £191.59m was simply put down to general administration, implying that councils had only spent ideas where the money went. He asked "whether, in some local authorities, the control exercised by elected members and senior officers over their central departments is effective."

	£m	% of total spending
GLC	14.3	3.2
Southwark	9.8	12.8
Liverpool	8.8	3.5
Leicester	5.5	7.9
Two Herts	5.3	10.2
Eslington	4.7	8.1
Salford	4.6	4.9
Greenwich	2.9	5.9
Wirral	2.7	2.5
Exeter	2.7	2.5

It seems that several councils, mostly Labour controlled, are unable to break down their spending on white-collar clerical staff, lawyers and administrators. The accounts show the money is being spent, but, Mr Sparrow says, no one is sure where it goes. In an article in the journal *Public Finance and Accountancy*, Mr Sparrow asks: "Is the failure to apportion general administration costs to services symptomatic of inadequate management information?" The councils with, apparently, least control over their white-collar staffs include several of the Labour authorities identified as "over-spenders" by the Government.

Mr Sparrow urged these councils to follow guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

## Chinese told of illegal trade in panda skins

By Nicholas Timmins

The Chinese Embassy in London had been given a report which strongly suggests that there is an illegal trade in the skins of giant pandas, in spite of the lengths to which the Chinese have gone to protect the animals. The trade in one of the world's most threatened species, came to light after a letter sent to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery from Taiwan offering panda skins for sale was passed to the Flora and Fauna Preservation Society. The society's executive secretary, Mr John Burton, then wrote to Mr Maurice Wang of the Ruyi Pin Trading Company in Taiwan, posing as the director of an animal trading company. He was told that a Japanese collector had paid £24,000 for a skin and that two more were available at £17,000 each. Mr Burton got in touch with *The Sunday Times* whose correspondent in Tokyo was shown two skins which were for sale. The newspaper and the society have passed the details to the Chinese Embassy which met a delegation led by Sir Peter Scott, the Preservation Society's chairman, last week. Mr Burton said the embassy "very, very seriously." Only about 1,000 pandas are thought to survive in the wild in China and they are threatened by a shortage of their staple diet, bamboo. Mr Burton said the society had no idea before the letter reached them that panda skins were being traded. From photographs and descriptions of the skins, he said, he was reasonably confident that the skins were genuine.

The skins were genuine.

## Indian master takes lead in chess championship

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Southampton

At the end of round six in the Grieverson Grant British Chess Championships at the King George V College in Southampton, the Indian master, Ithipsy was in the lead with five points followed by Bradbury, Johnson, J. Littlewood, Mestel and Ravikumar all of whom have four-and-a-half points. If Jonathan Spillman wins his adjourned game against Horner then he will also have four-and-a-half points. The competition is slightly more than half way through so every round is of vital importance, hence the caution of the leaders in this round on Saturday. Ithipsy drew with John Littlewood in 14 moves and Johnson in even shorter style in 11 moves. There was rather more play in the Mestel-Fritchett game but that too was drawn, after 26 moves. Horner and Spillman had a

## Microlight dives into roof of cottage

A microlight aircraft nosedived into the roof of a 300-year-old cottage in Little London, Hampshire, yesterday after a herd of cows prevented it from landing in a field near by. Mr Jack Tuttleit, aged 54, the pilot, had been on his way to visit Mr David Rogers and Mrs Joan Rogers. Mr Jon Holman who owns April Cottage said: "My son and I were cutting wood in the garden when he came over. We ducked and he missed us by a few feet." Mr Tuttleit, from Owslebury, near Winchester, suffered arm, leg and back injuries.

## Short cut

A flock of sheep is being used by the Anglian Water Authority to cut the cost of keeping down grass along the banks of a watercourse in Convey Island

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Monster from the deep: This 48-ton bronze propeller has been raised from the wreck of HMS Hampshire. But the Ministry of Defence says it must be returned to its underwater grave off the Orkney Islands. The propeller and shaft, with a scrap value of £45,000 are being held with other relics from the ship by the receiver

The artifacts were raised by divers from the Wharton Williams, Taylor salvage company of Aberdeen, who were working with a West German film crew making a documentary about the ship which sank in 1916, killing 700 people, including Lord Kitchener.



# Police arm grip blamed for man's death in struggle with officers

By a Staff Reporter

Police attempts to restrain Mr James Davey during questioning were responsible for his death after a struggle at a Coventry police station, according to an independent report on the incident.

Dr Ernest Milford Ward, of Leicester, a retired pathologist, states that the arm grip officers used to overcome Mr Davey's struggles had been banned in the United States and should not have been used in Britain. But he also says that the police were "darned unlucky" that their actions ended in Mr Davey's death.

Mr Davey, aged 40, collapsed on March 11 when the police, who said they thought he was about to head-butt them, fell on him with one officer holding him round the throat. His heart stopped during the struggle, and he was taken to Coventry and Warwick Hospital where he was put on a life-support system, but doctors declared him clinically dead and the system was switched off after 11 days.

Mr Davey had been held in custody for 17 hours while the police tried to persuade him to go to London to answer questions about the shooting of Mr Patrick O'Nione outside a dockland wine bar.

Dr Milford Ward, who examined Mr Davey's body on April 17 and spoke to Coventry



Mr James Davey: 'Highly volatile'.

police about the struggle, said yesterday that Mr Davey had died because of the excited state he was in. "This chap was grossly over-excited, had been chain smoking and was in a highly volatile state."

"When the struggle took place, a policeman grabbed him from behind, put his left arm around his neck with his left hand on his right shoulder. In order to restrain him, he pulled him back on his knee and Davey then fell forward. The

policeman then fell on top of him.

"According to my information, he could have got brain damage from that injury because of the anoxia [lack of oxygen]. This grip has been banned by the American police because it is so dangerous, and it should be banned here."

A report on Mr Davey's death was compiled by Mr Charles Horan, Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) of Greater Manchester Police, and sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions, who is considering whether charges should be brought against police officers. Dr Milford Ward said he would not recommend such action.

"I think the police were darned unlucky. Unfortunately they started off a chain reaction by restricting blood to the brain, and after that, nothing was going to stop him dying," he said.

Dr Milford Ward said he was acting on behalf of Mr Davey's family, but was totally independent. "Everybody else ducked it because it was so controversial, people just did not want to get involved," he said.

The inquest on Mr Davey stands adjourned.



# London Tamils pray for families in Sri Lanka

Tamils prayed and fasted at the Britannia Hindu Temple in Highgate Hill, north London, yesterday for the welfare of Tamils in Sri Lanka after the recent racial riots in the island. The half-day fast was also to raise money for the 130,000 refugees who fled their homes in the riots in which the official death toll is put at 350 and in which 20,000 Tamil businesses were attacked or destroyed (Nicholas Timmins writes).

The special ceremony was conducted by six priests with offerings of food, flowers and fire to the ancient Tamil warrior god Murugan. Hindu leaders among the Tamil community are writing to Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and to President Junius Jayewardene, calling for an end to the "genocide". There are an estimated

35,000 Tamils in Great Britain, concentrated in and around London, most of whom still have close family links with Sri Lanka. Many arrived in the 1960s and early 1970s after previous riots and after the introduction of regulations that would have compelled English speaking Tamils in the professions to learn Sinhalese in order to work.

In Britain, many have prospered. The temple is in the middle of a £200,000 conversion programme with money raised in the Tamil community. Originally a church, the building was for many years a synagogue until it was burnt out in the 1970s. With much of the local Jewish community having moved away, the building was taken over by the Tamils and decoration is to start soon (Photographs: Tony Weaver).



Leaders meet, page 4

# Heatwave kills hundreds of birds

By a Staff Reporter

The hot weather has killed many water-based birds in several parts of Britain. The sun and the lack of rain have caused the spread of botulism, which attacks their nervous systems.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday that it had been a very bad year for some birds. Last week more than 100 wildfowl at the Attenborough Nature Reserve, Nottingham, became the latest casualties of Britain's hottest summer since 1976.

Similar incidents have been reported by the Society in Norfolk and in Regent's Park, central London. On the boating lake in Regent's Park about 200 ducks and swans have died and in Norfolk about 130 birds, including gulls, mallards, geese and coots have perished.

Mr Tim Stowe of the society explained that botulism causes paralysis which affects the birds' wings, necks and legs and they waste away through their inability to feed and water.

He said that the affected birds are those which live in normally wet areas with fairly dense vegetation. They become breeding grounds for botulism when the water table is lowered.

The Thames estuary, Mersey estuary, Firth of Forth and parts of Norfolk, where shallow water can be found close to effluent pipes and rubbish tips, are bad areas for botulism.

While Britain's birdlife is suffering, the heat has proved a blessing to other wildlife.

The Royal Society for Nature Conservation notes that there have been far more butterflies than usual. Swarms of clouded yellows, painted ladies, red admirals, peacocks and tortoiseshells have been seen throughout the countryside.

Sea swimmers have been stung by Portuguese man o' war jellyfish, which have drifted into British waters.

Large numbers of shark have been seen off the Dorset and Devon coasts. A 24ft basking shark was seen in a Dorset bay.

One benefit of a hot summer is that many sub-tropical birds are attracted to British shores. For the first time in 40 years a block-winged stilt was spotted on a reserve in East Anglia.

Wild geese invading farms in search of food are damaging crops in East Anglia, according to the Country Landowners' Association.

Landowners in Norfolk say that geese have become "an absolute menace" to winter cereals, grass and vegetables. They are demanding a cull.

# Boy, 9, has marrow transplant

A boy aged nine who has leukaemia was in a satisfactory condition in a London hospital yesterday after a seven-hour bone marrow transfusion.

Robert Allen received the marrow from the hip bone of his brother David, aged 16, in an operation on Saturday night at the Westminster Children's Hospital.

His parents travelled from the family home in Withybed Lane, Inkberrow, near Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, to be at his bedside.

The disease was diagnosed when Robert was 18 months old. He has twice undergone lengthy periods of drug treatment but each time suffered a relapse.

Doctors had said that his



Robert Allen with his brother David.

long-term chances of survival were low without the marrow transplant, which now gives him a 50 per cent chance.

The hospital said yesterday: "The operation went very smoothly and Robert is quite satisfactory. But it will be at least two weeks before we have any definite indication of whether the operation has been completely successful."

All members of the family underwent tests to see who would be most suitable for the transfusion.

# TV-am viewers top million mark

By Kenneth Gosling

Roland Rat has been nibbling away at the BBC breakfast television viewing figures giving TV-am, the commercial company, a lead over the corporation for the first time since the two joined battle six months ago.

As well as TV-am's popular cartoon character which hoists its ratings to more than a million at 9am every weekday, against the BBC's best of 900,000 and worst, on Mondays, of 400,000, Diana Dors's weekly slimming classes just before 9am on Fridays are also breaking the million-viewer barrier. At earlier times on weekdays the BBC still stays ahead, although it admitted

yesterday that the once yawning gap had now narrowed.

The BBC attributed TV-am's success to school holiday programming and to the extra time it has after nine o'clock. The BBC figures, a spokesman said, had not gone down as dramatically as TV-am's had gone up.

Nevertheless, TV-am has put on 700,000 viewers in a fortnight. Figures released by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board for the week ended August 7 show that the TV-am audience was never less than 600,000 while on one occasion, 9am on Monday that week, the BBC had only 400,000.

# Survey scheme launched to help flat-buyers

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

A new deal for flat buyers is launched today. It aims to give a prompt and economical survey of a flat and professional advice on its value.

The Flat Buyers' Report and Valuation Scheme is being established by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. It follows the institution's House Buyers' Report and Valuation Scheme launched two years ago.

Under the new scheme, buyers will be able to receive an easily understood report on the state of repair of the flat and other parts of the building in which some owners may share responsibility for repairs. The report will apply to both converted flats and those in purpose-built blocks. Apart from examining the roof of the building, where accessible, chartered surveyors will inspect

shared entrances and other common parts such as stairways. The report will also cover such aspects as central services, like heating and water supply, as well as the condition of the flat itself.

Included in the report will be comment on management of the block. A check list of questions has been produced which the buyer should ask his solicitor covering such items as the terms of repair and maintenance agreement and responsibility for the replacement of lifts, and other service installations.

The cost of the service, which will include a market valuation, will vary according to the age, size, condition and price of the property. As with any other type of survey, it will probably be useful for buyers to shop around among chartered surveyors.

# Death Row wife's appeal for life

By Richard Evans

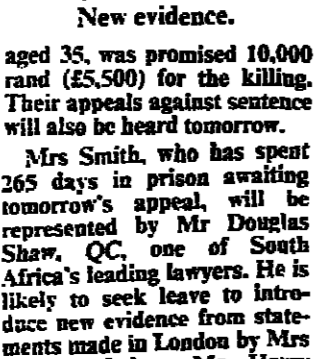
A British woman sentenced to hang in South Africa for the murder of her husband will have her appeal against conviction and sentence heard tomorrow, when attempts will probably be made to introduce new evidence.

Maureen Smith, aged 39, will remain in her Death Row cell in Pretoria's maximum security jail while five Appeal Court judges consider her case in Bloemfontein, 250 miles away.

The hearing is expected to last two days and the result should be announced within a week. A British consular official is expected to attend the appeal.

Mrs Smith, born in east London, emigrated to South Africa in 1975 shortly after marrying her third husband, Mr Roger Smith, in Brentwood, Essex. Mr Smith, a quantity surveyor, was stabbed to death in the back garden of their Johannesburg home last July.

Mrs Smith was sentenced to death after the court was told that she and other members of her family had spent months plotting her husband's death because he refused to give her a divorce.



Maureen Smith: New evidence.

If the court agrees to receive new evidence it will probably authorize a special hearing in London where Mr Mullucks would give evidence and face cross-examination. Mr Mullucks had wanted to fly to South Africa to give evidence at his daughter's trial, but he was refused immunity from possible prosecution.

Mr Mullucks said: "Maureen is bearing up and she is in a determined mood. I am praying and hoping the five judges of the Appeal Court extend to my daughter compassion and understanding."

"I believe her to be innocent and that she had no knowledge of what was to happen on the evening in question."

Mr Duncan Downes, a Durban-based solicitor, saw Mrs Smith on Friday. He said afterwards: "She is very anxious, very nervous and very concerned. Her thinking on all matters is not perfectly coherent. She has been under enormous strain, not only because of her sentence, but the strain of being where she is is enormous."

Mr Downes added that Mrs Smith's prospects in the appeal were "sound".

If Mrs Smith's appeal fails, a plea for clemency will be submitted to the state president. In theory, he alone would decide whether Mrs Smith should hang. But in practice the South African Cabinet would almost certainly make the final decision.

# Animal gift by Herriot character

Miss Marjorie Warner, who became one of the writer James Herriot's favourite characters, left most of her £90,270 estate to Help The Aged and other charities for the old and needy.

Miss Warner, who was a model for his character Mrs Pumphrey, also left £500 each to the Blue Cross Animal Hospital and the Performing Animals Defence League.

Her Pekinese dog Tricky Woo also inspired a character in Mr Herriot's books, which were later made into the television series *All Creatures Great And Small*.

Miss Warner lived in Sowerby near Thirsk, North Yorkshire, where Mr Herriot was a veterinary surgeon for many years. Then she moved to Marine Parade, Saltburn, Cleveland, where she died in May, aged 86.

Her funeral in Sowerby was attended by Mr Herriot, Miss Warner, who enjoyed horseracing and had a 10p bet every day, also left £100 to the Injured Jockeys Fund.

Other Wills, page 12

# Astor in fight over sculptures

Sevenoaks District Council want Lord Astor to return 26 sculptures which it claims were removed without listed building consent from Hever Castle, his former home, at Edenbridge, Kent.

The sculptures were in Hever's Italian Gardens, which are included in the Department of the Environment's list of Grade 2 buildings of architectural and historical interest. They were sold at Sotheby's last month for £276,000. Lord Astor says they were his own personal property.

# Architects earn 8.4% more

Architects' earnings in Britain increased in real terms in the year ended on April 1 by 8.4 per cent.

The Royal Institute of British Architects says average earnings of architects in full-time employment rose from £11,066 in 1982 to £12,000 in 1983. Principal architects' earnings went up by 6.4 per cent to £13,000, salaried architects by 8.9 per cent to £9,413 and local authority architects by 7.8 per cent to £12,338.

# Crash landings at balloon event

Police and fire services were flooded with emergency calls yesterday as dozens of hot air balloons crash landed in Bristol, Avon, because of a lack of wind.

One balloon landed outside a local radio station, another outside the Mansion House. Yet another landed in front of clergy as they left Bristol Cathedral after the morning service. Fifty-six balloons were taking part in the annual Bristol Balloon Fiesta.

# Tapes held in search for wife

Detectives searching for Mrs Diane Jones are retaining some cassette tapes taken from her home in Essex. But Det Supt Michael Ainsley, who is leading the hunt, refused to say if the tapes had yielded any clues to her disappearance.

Officers have been monitoring more than 120 cassettes, most of them pre-recorded

classical music, and Supt Ainsley has listened to some which were brought to his attention. He would not comment on what he had heard.

He also refused to discuss a report that the tapes disclose conversations and arguments between a woman and two men. The woman's voice on some of the tapes is thought to be that of

Mrs Jones and it has been suggested that her husband, Dr Robert Jones, recorded some of the conversations.

Dr Jones is expected to be interviewed again by detectives.

The investigation began 12 days ago when Dr Jones reported that his wife had been missing since July 23.

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# Detection and treatment of alcoholic doctors 'inadequate'

by Joanna Lyall

Procedures for identifying and treating doctors who are alcoholic, mentally ill or addicted to drugs are inadequate and represent only a "last ditch effort for a man who has gone overboard", according to a member of the General Medical Council's health committee.

"If the profession wishes to prevent disasters from occurring, clearly a means has to be found to deal with these problems earlier than we do at present", Dr Anthony Allibone says.

Commenting on the council's system for sick doctors in the *Journal of the Society of Administrators of Family Practitioner Services*, Dr Allibone, a general practitioner in Norfolk, says that the procedures help only "a tiny if tragic section of the profession". More local initiatives are needed for earlier detection of sickness among doctors, he says.

In August 1980 the GMC established a health committee and inaugurated a system designed to protect the public by providing early detection of sick doctors in a supportive rather than punitive atmosphere.

Previously doctors impaired by alcoholism, drug addiction or mental illness came to the council's attention only when they appeared before the disciplinary committee when they were liable to be suspended from practice or struck off the register.

The present system allows for sick doctors to have their fitness to practice assessed outside the disciplinary machinery of the GMC. Cases are considered by a "screener" who may ask the doctor to undergo a medical examination and then perhaps accept some limitations, such as not prescribing certain drugs or not working alone.

If the examiner's recommendations are rejected, the doctor is referred to the health committee which can suspend him for a maximum of 12 months, started, 142 doctors have been

referred to the GMC's screener. Of those, about half were invited to be examined. Of those cases examined, 25 doctors were found fit to practise subject to certain limitations, 16 were found unfit to practise and two were fit to practise. Another five agreed voluntarily to refrain from practice.

By last October only 19 cases had been referred to the health committee and 12 doctors had been suspended because of impaired fitness.

Dr Allibone told *The Times* that although the procedure was working well it tackled only the tip of the problem. The cases being referred to the GMC were "of such severity as to restrict the possibility of a beneficial outcome".

Dr Allibone recommends the establishment of link doctors in all parts of the country to refer doctors to sources of help and also the extension of self-help groups similar to the British Doctors' Group. Established in 1973 along the lines of Alcoholics Anonymous, the group now has more than 200 members.

Suicide rates among doctors are three times that of the general population and women doctors' suicide rate is six times as high. Rates of mental illness are also three times that of the population as a whole.

Dr Max Glatt, a leading authority on alcoholism, calculates on the basis of deaths from arthritis that there are about 2,000 to 3,000 alcoholic doctors in the United Kingdom out of a total of 81,000.

In 1975 an independent committee of inquiry into the regulation of the medical profession, chaired by Sir Alec Morrison, received evidence of chronic alcoholic doctors who had been known as such for 20 years and more.

# Russians adamant over boy 'defector'

From Christopher Thomas Washington

The Soviet Embassy in Washington remained adamant over the weekend that it would not allow US officials to interview a Russian teenager who apparently wants to defect.

The diplomatic rumpus intensified rapidly as FBI and Secret Service agents positioned themselves ostentatiously outside the Soviet Embassy. Agents were also stationed outside a Russian residential compound in north-west Washington, a collection of yellow brick buildings surrounded by a fence and controlled by an electronic gate.

As cars passed in and out agents looked into back seats and were particularly interested in unmarked vans with heavily tinted windows that frequently passed to and fro.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) ordered all airlines not to allow the boy on board. "We have taken every step that we can to prevent him surreptitiously leaving the country", it said.

Diplomatic tension was heightened when FBI agents approached the teenage son of a Soviet journalist at Dulles Airport Washington, believing that he might be Andrei Berezhkov, age 16 son of the first secretary at the Soviet Embassy.

Last Thursday the *New York Times* and the White House received a letter, purporting to be signed by the boy. The letter to the newspaper said: "I hate my country and its rules and I love your country".

According to the Russians, the agents who approached the Soviet journalist's son urged the boy not to leave. It was only when he convinced them that his only wish was to return to the Soviet Union that was permitted to proceed. The Soviet Embassy said a "provocation campaign" was being waged against Soviet representatives in Washington.

Later Mr Victor Isakov, a high-ranking Soviet Embassy official appeared on television and accused the Americans of a gross violation of international law, saying that such an attitude "could bring negative consequences for all the sides".

The Berezhkov family has been in Washington for the summer, and was due to be repatriated within a month. They have been living in a suburban block of flats in Maryland, but have not been home since the affair began.

# Anxiety grows in the allies' lake

In the first of a two-part series on Nato's responsibilities in the Mediterranean, RODNEY COWTON, Defence Correspondent, examines the balance of naval power.

It is part of today's conventional wisdom that if there should ever be another European war it would be unlikely to begin with a frontal assault through Germany. It would be more likely to arise out of a localized conflict outside the European heartlands which, once out of control, would draw in the superpowers.

The perpetual turmoil around Lebanon and Israel and the present tensions with Libya would ensure that the Middle East would come high on anyone's list of areas which are sufficiently combustible to carry in their risk of such an escalation. This is one of several factors which are giving rise to increasing anxiety among those who are responsible for Nato's defences in the Mediterranean area.

Twenty years ago the Mediterranean was seen very much as a Nato lake, and even today, as our table shows, the West has a heavy preponderance of naval power there, though the capabilities on land are much more fragile.

In the 1960s, the Soviet Union adopted a policy of developing its naval power and projecting it world-wide. In the Mediterranean this led to a

# Mediterranean forces stretched

# NATO's SOUTHERN FLANK Part 1

substantial increase in its naval presence. One analyst estimates the Soviet presence in 1964 at 5,000 ship-days, whereas in the mid-1970s during the period of tension around the Yom Kippur War this had increased to 20,000 ship-days a year.

The United States still puts on a show of strength from time to time with three or even four aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean, but much of the time there is only one carrier.

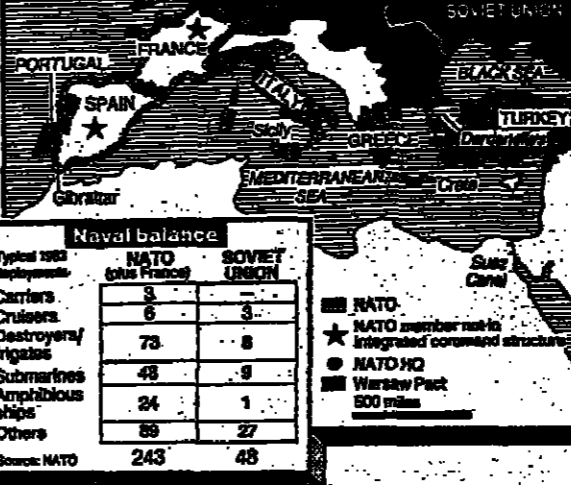
Nato's southern commanders miss few opportunities to complain about the inadequacy of British efforts in the western Mediterranean, and particularly at Gibraltar. The underlying thought is that so long as Spain's commitment to Nato remains hesitant, Britain should accept responsibility for the defence of the Gibraltar straits, and in the absence of a permanently assigned flotilla, the shore-based defences on Gibraltar need to be beefed up.

Although the British Government's public position is that it is satisfied with the forces assigned to Gibraltar, other British sources readily

acknowledge that Britain is failing to achieve its Nato-force targets in that area.

Much of the concern derives from the fact that the Mediterranean remains one of the world's key commercial arteries.

Because the Mediterranean is a relatively small, almost land-locked sea, it contains a large number of narrow passages which would be susceptible to blockading, and most of which would have to be kept open in times of war. These choke-points range from the Suez Canal in the east to Gibraltar in the west with mid-way, narrow waters around Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily and Malta.



But if these passages have to be kept open, there are others which the West would be desperate to close. These are the Bosphorus, the Dardanelles and the passages around Crete which are the successive gateways from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. If ever the Soviet Union were to control these routes and be able easily to deploy its Black Sea fleet in the Mediterranean the whole balance of naval power could be radically affected.

It is here that the interface lies between naval and land power, and it is here that Nato's anxieties are greatest.

Tomorrow: Eliminating the imbalance.

# Zia remains unmoved by hostile crowds

From Michael Hazllyn Rawalpindi

While 20,000 Pakistanis demonstrated yesterday against the martial law regime of President Zia ul-Haq, the President himself revealed a little more of his plans for the eventual restoration of democracy in an Independence Day press conference.

He declined to be specific in any way about his own future, which in itself was significant since there was a rumour that he would eventually return to barracks. This time all he would allow was that "personally I have no political designs".

Other demonstrators went on to towns across the country, but the Karachi one was the largest. Fighting broke out when pro-Zia demonstrators attacked the crowd, and police had to break it up with tear gas and a lathi charge.

Afterwards a number of arrests were made, including Mr Abid Zubair, the acting convenor of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy.

In Murree Road, Rawalpindi, a vast procession of two-wheelers, the characteristic three-wheeled scooters of the subcontinent, hurried through the town flustering, bunting, Pakistani flags and pictures of General Zia and the great leader of Pakistan, Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Lounging on every street corner, lathi dangles or rifles slung, were groups of shirt-sleeved police watching in case the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy tried anything.

Despite this and other evidence of popular support for the President's proposal for constitutional change, plans have been the subject of some thoughtful criticism.

Even the newspapers, which when it comes to criticism of the regime are usually tacitful to the point of subservience, have been expressing some doubts, while enthusiastically endorsing those aspects they like.

The Karachi morning paper *Dawn*, for example, suggests that strengthening the hand of the President so vehemently against the Prime Minister is not necessarily in the best interests of the country.

# Woman 'hit by police' to get cash

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

Police are believed to have offered "substantial" compensation to a great grandmother who was allegedly beaten by a constable in March.

Mrs Harriet Mellor, aged 73, says she has accepted a four-figure out-of-court settlement from Merseyside Police after an officer allegedly smashed her front door, then punched and slapped her face before forcing her into a Panda car.

The officer was one of two who were looking for her daughter. Mrs Mellor says she was held in a police station for half an hour before being allowed hospital treatment for cuts bruises.

Mrs Mellor of Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool, said yesterday that she was delighted that the matter had been resolved. "It was a terrifying ordeal and I am glad it is now all over. The money is some consolation, but it is not everything."

Solicitors acting for Mrs Mellor have filed a formal complaint against the two officers, both believed to be aged 22 and based at Wavertree Road police station, Liverpool.

Merseyside Police said: "we are investigating a complaint against two police officers".

# Hypnotized driver helps murder hunt

The examination under hypnosis of a lorry driver who may have seen Caroline Hogg being driven out of Scotland by her murderer was moderately successful, the police said yesterday.

Mr John Flinn, from Edinburgh, was returning from holiday when his car was almost involved in a collision with a pale blue Cortina five miles north of Coldstream on the A697 on the evening of July 8, an hour and a half after Caroline, aged five was last seen on The Promenade near her home in Portobello, Edinburgh.

Mr Flinn was hypnotized on Saturday under conditions laid down by the Crown Office.

Chief Inspector David Garbutt of Lothian and Borders police, said yesterday that Mr Flinn had information about the car.

The search for the killer has spread to Italy. Witnesses had spoken of a "foreign looking woman" taking films.

The names and addresses of a group of Italians who stayed in Edinburgh that night were obtained from a hotel register. The Italian police have traced the tourists and the murder squad is now waiting for seven cine films and one video film to arrive.

and his daughters with two children and two friends stayed for three nights at the Strik Hotel, near Griburn, Lancashire, and then moved to another hotel for a further two nights, where they were joined by another adult and a child.

Five weeks after the council's report was published, it was disclosed in a Granada Television World in Action programme that the relatives and friends had also been entertained at the Dunkenhalgh Hotel, near Accrington.

The *Daily Mail* told the council that the move was unplanned and a response to an increasing number of inquiries being made by newspapers and television representatives. It did not intend to hide the fact that a second hotel was used.

The total cost was just under £3,000 the newspaper said.

The Press Council reopened its inquiry after further information became available after its main report was published in February. The council said that then it had been hampered in considering complaints by Mrs Doreen Hill, whose daughter Jacqueline was the last of the 13 murder victims, by the *Daily Mail* failing to disclose relevant material.

The council said that there had been nothing wrong in the *Daily Mail* having arranged accommodation for Mr John Sutcliffe and his daughter. There was a point at which accommodation and entertaining people on a lavish scale would breach the declaration. But in this instance that was not the case.

The *Daily Mail*, however, did not disclose that Mr Sutcliffe

# Big Apple gets back its shine

From Trevor Fishlock New York

Manhattan was fully dressed in its Suit of Lights again last night as power was restored after a three-day black-out that hit hundreds of businesses.

There was cheering in the mid-town fashion houses which had been plunged into darkness at the height of one of the New York clothing industry's busiest marketing weeks.

With hundreds of buyers in town to see the autumn and spring fashions, the garment industry has been working feverishly in borrowed or emergency-lit accommodation.

With lost time and millions of lost dollars to catch up on, garment manufacturers predicted that today would be a "mad house".

New York is in a euphoric mood of self-congratulation for having come through a black-out which threatened the city's jugular, its commerce.

# Unions court Mondale, the workers' friend

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

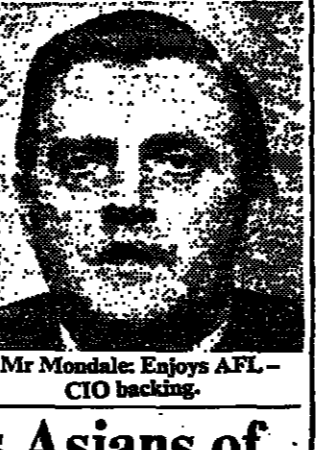
The United States labour movement, after more than a decade of frustration in mainstream politics, looks set to throw its weight behind Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic front-runner for the presidential nomination.

He has been assiduous in becoming a friend of labour and, in return, has been treated to much courting from the wealthy AFL-CIO, which has refurbished its political machinery in an attempt to recapture the old days of political influence.

Early in October, 3,000 delegates will gather in Florida to determine their presidential choice, and all six Democratic contenders await the outcome with great interest. The labour movement's other principal ally, Mr Alan Cranston, the Democratic presidential candidate from California, has opened an intensive drive to turn the tide against Mr Mondale but the odds are not with him.

The federation's conference was originally scheduled for December. Its shift to October gives a distinct advantage to Mr Mondale because it provides less time to his rivals to start campaigns in the unions.

It might have been brought forward even earlier, but October is a busy time for the unions, which said it needed more time to prove Mr Cranston's record as a friend of labour.



Mr Mondale enjoys AFL-CIO backing.

# Moi assures Asians of a place in Kenya

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Moi assured Asians and other minorities yesterday that Kenya would remain a plural society. He called on the country's large Asian business community to ignore "prophecies of doom" which discouraged investment by suggesting that Kenya was politically unstable or economically mismanaged.

More than 1,000 Asians, including many prominent business and professional men and women, called on President Moi at his home at Kabarak, 200 miles north-west of here, to declare their loyalty and their support for his policies. He presented membership certificates for the ruling Kenya African National Union to 900 of them.

# No space for a million dollars

Mrs Sally Ride, America's first woman astronaut, who has turned down offers worth a total of more than \$1m (£670,000) to cash in on her fame (Ivor Davis writes).

On a visit to Las Vegas, Mrs Ride, aged 32, who was one of the five crew of the space shuttle Challenger on its recent flight, said:

"There have been a lot of offers about how I could make a million dollars with endorsements and other things. But I have said no. I don't want to get out of the Challenger programme and cash in on my name. I didn't go into the space programme to make money or be famous - I went into it to get into space."

# Zimbabwe pays tribute to nationalist war dead

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

At Heroes' Day memorial services this weekend, Zimbabwe honoured nationalists who died in the independence struggle. Ceremonies were held across the country over the four-day holiday period, designated to replace the colonial Rhodes and Founders' days.

In a service at Heroes' Acre, a shrine built by North Korean craftsmen on the outskirts of Harare, President Canaan Banana called on the victors and vanquished of the war to unite in making Zimbabwe a shining example of racial harmony.

Television and radio specials paid tribute to nationalist leaders buried at Heroes' Acre, including Herbert Chitepo, who was assassinated in Zambia in 1975, and Josiah Tongogara, the guerrilla commander once suspected of engineering the assassination, who was killed in a car accident at the end of the war.

# Trudeau seeks new image

From John Best Ottawa

The extensive Cabinet reshuffle by Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, at the weekend is regarded as an effort to give his Liberal government a fresh image before Canada's general election, expected next year.

Five Ministers, including Mr Gilles Lamontagne, Defence, were dropped while five backbenchers were elevated to Cabinet jobs.

Eight Ministers switched posts in the reshuffle, the third carried out by Mr Trudeau in less than a year.

Mr Jean-Luc Pepin, one of the most senior members, was moved from the demanding Transport portfolio to the relatively obscure post of Minister of State for External Relations.

Mr Pepin will be replaced by Mr Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Employment and Immigration.

Mr Lamontagne, a former Mayor of Quebec, will be replaced by Mr Jean-Jacques Blais, until now Minister of Supply and Services.

Trudeau has pledged to step down before the next election, but has kept everyone guessing about the date of his retirement, while his potential heirs and the Liberal Party machine wait.



Mr Trudeau: Dismissed five ministers.

# Sri Lanka Tamil leader briefs Mrs Gandhi

Debi (AFP) - Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, the Sri Lankan Tamil leader, yesterday met Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, who has offered to mediate in the island state's bitter ethnic dispute.

No details of the talks here were given, and Mr Amirthalingam, who is secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the island's principal opposition party now facing a constitutional ban, was to meet Mrs Gandhi again tomorrow, reliable sources said. But observers expected him to come under pressure during the talks to soften the Tamils' separatist demands.

Mr Amirthalingam had changed plans yesterday and flew to Delhi to meet Mrs Gandhi. He was to have talks with local Tamil leaders in Madras, the capital of Tamil Nadu state, the heartland of the Indian Tamils.

Candidates in his elections will be rigorously scrutinized to make sure that the result, as he put it, "will be positive". He explained that, in order to be approved by the returning officer, a candidate will have a certain level of education and a certain age. In addition, "they must be fully and correctly following the basic principles of Islam, if they are Muslims", he said. "They must be patriotic national, if they are non-Muslim. They must have a clean past record. None of them must be convicted of a crime which can be considered as derogatory to one's character."



سكزامن الاصل







# Irish priest held in riots as Chile protesters try to bury their dead

Santiago (AP, AFP) - A Roman Catholic priest from Ireland was arrested along with at least 20 mourners as disorders erupted at funeral services here for two of the 24 people killed during anti-government demonstrations. At least five funeral processions turned into protest marches.

At the Metropolitan Cemetery in south-west Santiago a police helicopter hovered overhead and three armoured cars circled outside during a ceremony for two of the protesters.

About 600 people attended the service, and near the end scores of youths threw stones over the picket fence at helmeted riot police who responded with tear gas. Many shouted "murderers, murderers" at the police.

Rioting interrupted rail services - when enraged inhabitants of the poor José María Caro neighbourhood threw stones at trains.

Father Liam Holahan, aged 28, of Kilkenny, a member of the London-based Mill Hill Missionaries, said he was arrested while walking home from a cemetery, and then beaten and kicked for an hour on a police bus and in a police station. He said he was released late on Saturday without being charged.

"They claimed I was fleeing with a crowd that had burnt a bus, but I never saw any bus. When I told them I was a priest, they beat me even harder. I heard one of them say, 'Let's crucify him'", he said.

By nightfall on Saturday, the protests appeared to have ended and police previous nights, there were no flaming barricades in the streets.

Earlier, the Interior Minister, Señor Sergio Onofre Jarpa, met the Archbishop of Santiago, Mgr Juan Francisco Fresno, and promised to investigate reports of "unnecessary violence" by soldiers and police during the protests on Thursday and Friday.

Señor Alfonso Márquez, Secretary-General of the Government, said seven people were killed on Friday night in poor districts of Santiago, where bands of youths set up street barricades and threw stones at riot police, who fired automatic weapons.

He said that "professional provocateurs" were responsible for the disorders, but did not describe the circumstances of the victims' death.

Señor Onofre Jarpa said continuation of violent demonstrations could lead to civil war.

The tear gas stopped the funeral processions of Eliana Gómez Aguirre, aged 21, and Antonio Fuentes Lagos, aged 20. "Eliana was talking with a woman friend in the doorway of a nearby house when a soldier fired from the street corner and the bullet hit her in the head", said one of her 10 brothers.

"Antonio was not chanting slogans or shouting when he was shot", said his stepfather. "We begged Army patrols to take him to an emergency clinic but they said they could not. Later a doctor said he died from bleeding".

# Mexico and US in search for stability

From John Carlin, La Paz, Mexico

President Reagan arrived yesterday in the town of La Paz, at the southern tip of the Mexican peninsula of Baja California, for a day of talks with President Miguel de la Madrid. Central America was expected to be the chief issue under discussion at the summit, the first between the neighbouring Presidents.

Mexico and the United States have traditionally disagreed on Central America. Mexico has always shown sympathy, and

Governments on how to defuse them remain marked.

President de la Madrid said in an interview on American television on Thursday that the presence of American warships off Central American coasts would put an obstacle in the way of peace efforts in the region, particularly attempts to avoid war between left-wing Nicaragua and US-backed Honduras.

Nevertheless, Señor de la Madrid was at pains to emphasize "the understanding" and "maturity" that characterize relations between Mexico and the United States.

"We agree to disagree" on foreign policy is always the line of the American Embassy in Mexico City. There was little reason to believe that there would be any unaccustomed friction between the two Presidents, or between Mr George Shultz, US Secretary of State and Mexico's Foreign Minister, Señor Bernardo Sepúlveda, who were also present.

There has been much speculation in Washington and Mexico City that President Reagan planned to use the meeting to put pressure on Mexico to toe the more belligerent American line on Central America, instead of pursuing a policy of negotiation with all parties, the Sandinistas in Nicaragua included.

Mr Reagan was expected to apply economic muscle to Mexico at a time when it is passing through its severest economic crisis ever.

# Plane given to Belize

Britain has given Belize, its former Central American colony, two Defender Islander aircraft to strengthen its defences, according to a statement from Belmopan (Reuters reports).

Members of the Defence Force are being trained in Canada to fly and maintain the aircraft, which are to be used mainly for transport, reconnaissance and rescue operations.

Britain has maintained a small garrison in Belize since it became independent in 1981.

often support, for Central American revolutionary movements, while the United States has been committed to checking, at all costs, the spread of what it sees as a left-wing contagion in the region.

Tensions in Central America have never run higher, but the differences of opinion between the Mexican and American

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# Tibet crops ravaged by drought

Lhasa (AFP) - A persistent drought is threatening to increase Tibet's heavy economic dependence on the Peking Government. Officials here said the drought is the worst in 50 years and affects more than 60 per cent of Tibet's arable land.

"Many rivers and even wells deeper than 30 metres (99 ft) are dry," Mr Gong Dax, director of the Department of Agriculture and Forests, told visiting journalists. This year's grain harvest could be less than last year's 447,000 tonnes, which was below that of 1981. The best harvest was in 1978, with 510,000 tonnes.

Livestock, Tibet's main resource, showed a 6 per cent decrease during the past few months.

In the commune of Baiding, on the city's outskirts, an official indicated that the only consequence of the drought was a reduction in cream production, which was previously 15lb a year per yak and was now 11lb. Yaks, which can live at altitudes of 13,000ft to 16,000ft, are also used as draught animals.

Their milk is used to make butter, which is an ingredient in two staples of the Tibetan diet - griddle barley flour, known as tsampe, and tea.

During the Cultural Revolution, local authorities provoked an outcry among the peasants by forcing them to replace barley with wheat. Today, wheat occupies 20 per cent and barley close to 58 per cent of arable land, but the drought, which began in 1981, has spared neither crop.

# Threats strain Pope's Lourdes visit

Continued from page 1

units kept the crowds under surveillance with sophisticated television and infrared cameras.

Hours before the Pope's arrival, police closed all roads into the town. Detectives, detained for questioning a dozen Basque nationalists on the French side of the border with Spain.

In Toulouse, 90 miles from Lourdes, an incendiary bomb badly damaged the offices of a Catholic newspaper, *La Croix du Midi*, yesterday morning. A handwritten message stuck to

the window of another religious publishing house said: "Tomorrow the Pope." Police questioned members of an anarchist group.

In Tarbes, police expelled from the cathedral 20 members of "The Committees of Support for the Peoples of Central America."

A spokesman for the group said they had wanted to give a message to the Pope asking why he did not support more strongly the battle against misery, oppression and abuse of human rights.

On Friday, an explosion wrecked the first Station of the Cross - the basilica in Lourdes.

John Paul II is the first Pope to visit Lourdes since Bernadette claimed to have had her vision. A grim reminder of his vulnerability is that he intended to make his pilgrimage in 1981 but was prevented by the attempt on his life.

Yesterday afternoon the Pope prayed at the grotto, set in the rock, before going to a large field across the river to speak to

the faithful in French. Later, he walked in a candlelit procession to the basilica, where he was due to give another sermon.

Today, the Pope's programme starts with a service at the basilica attended by bishops, priests, monks and nuns. That will be followed by an open air Mass, meetings with young people, and the blessing of the sick. Before leaving Tarbes airport in the evening, the Pope is due to meet M Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, for about an hour.

Pilgrim's homage: The Pope praying in front of the Virgin's statue inside the Sacred Grotto in Lourdes.

# Security around Beirut deteriorates

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

men of the 3rd, 4th and 8th Brigades with tanks and armoured personnel carriers into the Chouf, and expects that troops of the multinational force in Beirut will patrol the international highway between Beirut and the mountain town of Bhandoun and the coastal highway from Beirut to the Awali river.

The Lebanese Army has been told that the Israelis cannot guarantee their presence in the Chouf after August 20, although this is not in itself a departure date.

Druze pressure on the Government, it transpires, was a good deal more serious last week than was at first thought. When Druze gunmen attacked Lebanese Army positions at the village of Kfir Matta - a "bubble" of Government-held territory in the Chouf - on Wednesday, they succeeded in capturing four Army check-

nese queued at the Beirut docks to take boats to Cyprus, where Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, is trying to start temporary operations.

Meanwhile, Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's Middle East envoy, spent some hours with Mr Saeb Salam, one of Lebanon's few respected elder statesmen and an increasingly vigorous critic of President Gemayel's Government. The Americans are now listening to the voice of Mr Gemayel's opponents in Lebanon in a way they have not done before.

In the Chouf itself, Israeli troops have closed down two more Phalangist militia barracks prior to their departure, but still no attempt has been made by the Israelis to disarm either the Phalangists or the Druze.

The Lebanese Army Command intends to send 8,000

points and disarmed the 50 Lebanese soldiers whom they captured.

On Wednesday and Thursday two Lebanese soldiers at the village were killed and six others wounded.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, said in an interview on the American CBS television network that the Lebanese had to achieve a "national compromise" involving the Druze. "Either we will achieve it or we will go on with this endless and bloody war."

Obviously, Mr Jumblatt also warned US Marines of the multinational force, based around Beirut airport, to move away from the Lebanese Army.

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# Hot-line at hospital for amnesia victim

The Emmanuel Hospital in Portland, Oregon, has set up a 24-hour hot-line to receive calls from anybody who thinks he recognizes the Englishman who has lost his memory after a road accident.

The man believes his name is David Miller. But the hospital said yesterday that he was to be given a language test to see if he speaks Lithuanian. The test follows a telephone call from an electronics engineer from Wittington, Manchester, who said that he was almost certain that the man was his brother Martin Gasimas, aged 24. The brothers, born of Lithuanian parents, were brought up in Australia and England.

# Soviet paper takes dim view of shortage

Moscow (Reuters) - A quarter of a million people in Moscow have been waiting months for spectacles because lenses are in short supply, *Izvestia* reported yesterday.

The situation was much the same all over the Soviet Union, it said.

It cited the case of a war veteran named as Khanko, who had tried in vain to order special lenses for the past 10 years.

The old man, virtually blind without spectacles, had travelled to Moscow, Kiev and other cities in a fruitless hunt for them.

# Israel makes new friend in black Africa

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Encouraged by a military deal of so far undisclosed proportions, Liberia has become the second of more than 20 black African states which broke off diplomatic ties with Israel in protest against the 1973 Middle East war, to agree to return its Ambassador to Tel Aviv.

The decision was announced dramatically in the Liberian capital of Monrovia on Saturday when the state-controlled radio was interrupted for a special broadcast. Senior Israeli officials are now confident that the lead of Mr Samuel Doe, the Liberian head of state.

Israeli sources point out that a number of black African governments are becoming increasingly nervous about the activities of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, particularly after the recent Libyan-inspired coup in Upper Volta and the continued Libyan-backed revolt in Chad.

According to the sources, the present mood in Africa has led to hopes here that the years of diplomatic isolation can be ended. Another factor working in Israel's favour is last year's final evacuation of the Sinai desert, territory regarded an African soil.

The handover to Egypt was one of the reasons cited in the Liberian statement which was warmly welcomed yesterday by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Foreign Minister. The Liberian decision was taken in the face of concerted Arab pressure against it.

It is understood that the terms of the military deal which accompanied the Liberian move were discussed in Jerusalem earlier this month during a previously unpublicized visit by a high-ranking delegation from Monrovia, which included the Defence Minister.

Israeli officials flatly refuse to discuss or even to confirm the arms component in the diplomatic package. But it was learnt

# General to quit Army

Israel's former Chief of Military Intelligence, General Yehoshua Saguy, is leaving the Army after losing his previous post as a consequence of his actions during the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut refugee camps last year (Reuters reports).

The judicial inquiry into the massacres in the Sabra and Chatila camps by Phalangist militiamen found that General Saguy failed to give warning of risks involved in allowing militiamen into the camps after the murder of President-elect Bashir Gemayel.

by The Times that the Liberian delegation held a number of confidential discussions here, including a meeting with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister.

A veil of secrecy covers much of Israel's involvement with black Africa in the years which followed the mass diplomatic exodus in 1973. But according to Western sources, Israeli trade with black Africa is now running at £130m a year. Israeli diplomats also staff so-called "interest sections" situated in the capitals of Ghana (which also handles Togo) and Ivory Coast (which takes care of Gabon).

# Blaze beaten

Dar es Salaam (Reuters) - A forest fire, which threatened thousands of wild animals living on the slopes of the 19,340ft Mount Kilimanjaro, has been extinguished after a week-long struggle by Tanzanian firemen, soldiers and civilians.

# Peking appeal

Peking (Reuters) - The Government has called on foreign scientists of Chinese descent to show patriotism by coming to China and helping to develop their motherland, the New China news-agency said.

# Pilgrims killed

Delhi (AFP) - Up to 60 pilgrims died in a stampede as Hindu shrine in the north Indian state of Himachal Pradesh when a building belonging to a temple priest collapsed during a fair.

# Clemency plea

Bangkok - A former student activist, Chirawat Kienpanya, aged 25, who is awaiting execution for killing a policeman, will ask King Bhumibol for clemency. His family has already lodged a similar appeal.

# Typhoon threat

Tokyo (Reuters) - High waves pounded Japan's Pacific coast and torrential rains lashed southern regions yesterday as two typhoons moved closer. Six swimmers were drowned in rough seas.

# Baltic barrier

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union has started to build a 15-mile barrier across the bay of Finland to protect Leningrad from flooding during high tides in the Baltic. *Sovetskaya Rossiya* reported.

# Basque blast

Usurbil (Reuters) - Two separatist guerrillas died when their car blew up outside a factory in this Basque town, police said. They belonged to an anarchist offshoot of ETA.

# Cosmonaut warning averts flood disaster

Moscow (AFP) - The two Soviet cosmonauts, Commander Vladimir Lishtov and Alexander Alexandrov, who have been 47 days in their orbiting space station, have saved part of Soviet Central Asia from serious flooding by warning the flight command centre, Moscow radio reported yesterday. They spotted a lake 12,000 ft up in an inaccessible part of Tajikistan, and geologists who inspected the area said it had been formed after a thaw and was threatening to flood several towns, later evacuated. A channel was dug to divert the water.

The detached unmanned Cosmos 1443, which linked up with the Salyut 7 space station on March 10, and sent it spinning into space.

# Spain agrees to fishing cuts

Rabat (Reuters) - Spain and Morocco have finalised a fishing agreement after seven months of tough negotiations which will force Spain to scrap part of its 1,200-strong fleet operating off Morocco, informed Spanish sources said.

The deal involves a gradual 40 per cent cut in catches, a 70 per cent rise in fishing fees, and Spanish financial aid totalling £366m.

# Four climbers die in Alps

Sion (AP) - Four climbers died in weekend accidents in the Swiss Alps, bringing the season's toll to 22. Two men climbing the Matterhorn's north face fell hundreds of feet on to a glacier.

Three French mountaineers plunged into a crevasse when a falling rock hit one of them as they crossed the 10,902 ft Col de Chardonnet. Two of them - a woman, aged 59, and a 72-year-old man - died.

# 'Reign of fear' in Philippines

Manila (Reuters) - The Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, said yesterday an atmosphere of fear and anguish prevailed in the Philippines because of social injustice and rampant violation of human rights.

He said the top 5 per cent of the population earned 20 per cent of the wealth while 17 million endured "abject poverty".

# Flood rescue

Delhi (Reuters) - The Indian Army has been called in to help rescue thousands of people marooned by the flooding of the Godavari River in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, where at least 70 people have drowned or been killed by collapsing houses.

# Tanker sunk

Cape Town (Reuters) - The oil-laden bow section of the burnt-out Spanish supertanker Castillo de Bellver sank in the Atlantic 150 miles off the South African coast on Saturday after experts blew two holes in its side.

# Blaze beaten

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# The world chess fracas

# Kasparov the superstar likely to keep his nerve

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The latest fracas between Moscow and the International Chess Federation (Fide) could lead to the collapse of the current world championship and even threaten the structure of world chess, according to Soviet chess experts.

If they are right, no one will be more disappointed than Gary Kasparov, the brilliant young grandmaster from Baku, who has been preparing to contest the world title since he started playing chess at the age of seven.

Kasparov was due to meet Viktor Korchnoi at Pasadena, California, last weekend in the world championship semi-final. Had he played and won, he would have gone on to challenge the winner of the other semi-final between Vasily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and Zoltan Ribli of Hungary for the right to meet Annoty Karpov, the world champion, in the event. Russia abruptly withdrew from both matches,

and Fide declared Korchnoi the winner at Pasadena by default.

Kasparov clearly regrets having to abandon the competition only two steps away from the chance to win the world title at the age of 20. Karpov was 25 when he became world champion. But Kasparov has publicly supported the Soviet decision to withdraw, with the proviso that he hopes the match against Korchnoi can be rescheduled.

From the seclusion of his home in Baku, Azerbaijan, in the south of the Soviet Union, Kasparov said that the match should have taken place in Rotterdam, and that Fide had not heeded the wishes of the participants. Since that is the Soviet line it is difficult for Kasparov to say anything else, but he - and the Soviet Chess Federation - have their eye on the next Fide congress in October, which they say they hope will reverse the decision.

Kasparov has been a chess prodigy since he tested his skills on the chessboard five times a day as a child. "I

quickly understood that chess was very easy and just what I needed", he recalled in an interview.

Lean but well built, with dark good looks, Kasparov is a superstar in a country where chess is a national preoccupation. He is well aware of his brilliance, but has a natural, unassuming and rather ironic manner.

He lives quietly at home with his mother - to whom he is devoted - and prefers to play football or read books in English rather than engage in politics. If he became world champion Kasparov would probably not be the party line and act as a spokesman for Soviet peace policies as willingly as Karpov does.

Chess experts doubt, however, that Kasparov might have been tempted to follow the example of Korchnoi, who defected from Russia in 1976.

Some sources think it likely that the Soviet authorities simply want to ensure that Kasparov waits a year or two before being given the chance to depose Karpov.

Kasparov himself certainly believes the current crisis must be resolved. If it is not, the Soviet Union could declare the current championship invalid and withdraw altogether. Equally, Karpov could remain champion while refusing to meet contenders acknowledged as legitimate by Fide.

If after October the Soviet Union were to form its own "world federation" controlled by the Soviet block and the Third World - as some think it might - Kasparov could lose the chance of becoming a true world champion and would have to settle for winning a Soviet-dominated event.

On the other hand, Kasparov recently said that he enjoyed a "psychological advantage" over most opponents because he was the kind of player who could trust himself to take crucial decisions without hesitation. That kind of strong nerve and resilient character should see Kasparov through a personal and professional crisis which would tax many an older and more experienced player.



Gary Kasparov: Unassuming superstar of chess.

صياحة الأصل



THE ARTS

Television Wall of sound

Those under 40 can hardly have forgotten the "Spector sound" that heavily pounding beat which had the strange, subtle quality normally associated with outboard motors and hydraulic lifts.

No one seemed to like him very much. "If there is such a thing as a bad guy," one songwriter said, "it is Phil Spector." But his only fault, apart from the fact that he was better than anyone else, seemed to be his skill in manipulating "PR" in a business which is established upon the "hype" of worthless products.

It was good to know, from the credits, that The Charterhouse of Parma (Channel 4) is based upon Stendhal's novel. It is difficult to know what else it might be drawn from, except perhaps some brochures by the Italian tourist industry.

One Summer (Channel 4) last night followed the adventures of the "deprived but street-wise" boys from Liverpool - in other words, two loutish and generally unappealing teenagers. "Bill" and "Icky" are particularly boorish, although presumably "warm" comedies can be derived from the fact that they insult or steal from anyone in sight.

Peter Ackroyd

Catherine Cookson country is off the branch line from Newcastle to Hexham. At the station the visitor is met by Tom Cookson, Catherine's schoolmaster husband, a slight, neat man in owl-like glasses.

Seven years ago, when Catherine was 70, the Cooksons moved back to the countryside of her childhood after an exile for her of over 45 years. They settled for a while in Corbridge but autograph-hunters soon earmarked the spot as a natural break in any journey between Scotland and the south.

She leads the way. Small in appearance from the outside, the house opens on to a series of vast rooms, two great drawing-rooms, a long dining-room with a mahogany table for 16 and upstairs, reached by a wrought-iron staircase, an immense study with magnificent views over rhododendrons and azaleas to the lake.

Catherine Cookson's sixtieth novel, Hamilton, is published today. It is quite unlike the great melodramatic family sagas for which she is best known and she has had to swing reluctant agents and publishers behind her. "I always wanted to write comedy," she explains. There seems little likelihood however that it will fail to join all her other books on the best-seller list.

The devotion of a public now in some 30 countries - Holland in particular, she says, is "saturated with

Catherine Cookson has risen above adversity to a seemingly permanent place in the best-seller lists: her sixtieth novel, Hamilton, is published today. Interview by Caroline Moorehead

Returning to first principles

Photograph of Catherine Cookson by Alan Gorngrahm



Cookson - inevitably dominates her life. She treats the 3,000 letters she receives each year very seriously, keeping a record of every detail on a card index. "People have been writing to me for 20 years. They treat me as family. I get a letter whenever someone has a new baby. Answering her post takes up part of each morning. But by then she will have been at work since seven, sitting on the edge of her bed, talking into a dictaphone. "I took it like a duck to water," she talks fast, laughing often, with an agreeable still-

northern voice, occasionally using the Northumberland idiom of her childhood and her heroines: "Me da" (my father). "I've always been a jabberer. I just talked. I see everything in images. The plot sort of unfolds. Even the dialogue. In the morning it's all there to put down." Writing, for Catherine Cookson, began with a 16,000-word story turned down by the Shields Daily Gazette. It took no firm shape until well after the war. By then she had long since left behind her the extreme poverty of Tyne

Dock, her illegitimacy, her mother's alcoholism and her 12 years in the laundries of various workhouses. But, if the early years of her life were quite exceptionally hard, the middle ones were the most unhappy.

"I now look back on the years between 40 and 50 as a painful nightmare," she wrote in her autobiography, Our Kate. Four miscarriages had been followed by a nervous breakdown, which lasted some 10 years, and the final recognition that the nose-bleeds she had suffered since adolescence in fact came from a rare hereditary blood disease. Today bleeding, from tongue and thumbs as well as internally, takes her on repeated emergency night trips to hospital. She dismisses the subject, saying only that the real nuisance is that she is allergic to drugs.

She took 12 years to write Our Kate, which turned out in the end to be more about her mother than herself. "I had to rewrite it eight times, each time deleting a bit more of the bitterness," she says. In fact Our Kate is a touching and rather gentle book. By the time it appeared, in 1968, Catherine Cookson was securely established as the popular and prolific writer of extremely readable historical tales. "I have always looked upon writing as a trade," she says. "I simply apprenticed myself to it." She never makes notes, other than for ages, names and colour of eyes of her characters. "I am lucky! I can keep it all in my head. I can just carry on the story wherever I am."

Her words suggest complacency. But Catherine Cookson is a dogged researcher and her novels are dense in historical detail. She once went down a mine when the heroine of her current novel lived in mining country. "You see, until I was 16 my world was a short straight line: farrow, East farrow, Tyne Dock and East Shield, running along the river. I had everything to catch up. It wasn't until I grew up and read Lord Chesterfield that I began my education. He became my tutor and the public library my university."

"When Tom's school was evacuated to St Albans during the war we had a little flat opposite the library. I took a book every day: Chaucer, Emerson, John Donne. Good plain writing, no hyperbole. I would have liked to have studied philosophy. Homespun philosophy, that's what you get in my books." It took her a while, she says, to stop hankering after "grand houses, and ladies and gentlemen" and turn to writing about the things she knows about: extreme poverty, the pawn shop, illegitimacy, drunkenness. "I had to get rid of that pseudo person. I had to return to my early beginnings." She never travels. But she is possessed, she says, of second sight, especially when it comes to the North. "I'm afraid to believe in reincarnation. Oh no, I've had enough." She talks of the catastrophes of her life baldly, but not with self-pity.

There are ten unpublished novels - "they didn't pass Tom's eye" - and five more ready in her study. "I never have difficulty thinking up ideas. I have too many. They tumble over each other."



Paolo Bocelli and Tania Rocchetta as the Macbeths

Theatre Stab in the back

Macbeth Riverside

The Compagnia del Collettivo from Parma arrives at the London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT '83) with a great deal of hype for a two-week "Shakespeare season": first Hamlet, now this Macbeth, then Henry II' from next Thursday.

They use as much or as little of the text (in Italian) as they need to get to the heart of the play and present it in whatever mixture of modern styles seems apt. The Macbeths, for instance, get through their absurd little story on a film set, bowed and scraped to by technician-supers incessantly sniffing their armpits or doing up their flies.

How interesting is it as a theatrical spectacle? Sometimes pretty good. How much does it have to say about Shakespeare's Macbeth (which is not the point anyhow)? Not a lot. How much does it say about anything else in the world around us, "the universal truths inherent in great literature"? Not enough. If only subconsciously, so much of the motivation seems to have been simply to cock a snook at an irritatingly towering literary landmark, when in this country that would not be necessary before - and would only get in the way of - the business of ripping apart and fruitfully reconstructing an old play containing something of value.

The evening opens with a family bored reading of the play's synopsis in which the Witches salute Macbeth thrice merely from inability to get it right first time. A beaked figure doubling sole Witch and Porter greets Banquo, initial loser in the prophecy stakes, with a loud raspberry but offers Macbeth a cigarette. The dagger speech is mocked with actorish delivery and loads of light.

Along with all this goes an interesting portrayal of the Macbeths themselves as young parvenus lounging in front of a trendy little portable telly with a pile of paperbacks. Duncan's death is discussed rather as an executive and his wife might debate his prospects for promotion or a rise. Television drones on throughout the murder but the discovery of the corpse is breathtakingly staged, with subdued hubbub of horror glimpsed in flashes of white light. Then the media move in to interview key figures, yelling to Malcolm to weep (he refuses).

Lady Macbeth dies in Pirandellian style by throwing off her costume and marching off the set in ordinary clothes. Macbeth, with the house lights on, declares "Life's but a walking shadow. Life is cinema. A tale told by an idiot..." The cheap chair earlier demolished as a symbol of Macbeth's fall is taped together for Malcolm's coronation but will not take his weight without collapsing. It is all too easy, an interminably successful stab at doing what should be done better.

Anthony Masters

Promenade Concerts

BBCSO/Pritchard Albert Hall/Radio 3

Mahler's "most perfect work" and "his supreme masterpiece" (two recent comments by Mahler scholars on Das Lied von der Erde) is peculiarly satisfying to hear at a Prom. The unusual notion of an almost infinite vision expressed in terms of intimate, personal song-settings matches perfectly the combination of huge space and intense concentration in the Albert Hall: at Saturday night's performance (shown yesterday evening on BBC1) the large audience was rapt and still.

On this occasion it was the vividly detailed orchestral writing that fired the imagination: the eerie, twisted pairs of wind instruments warbling sounds of nature; a superlative first oboe (John Anderson) unravelling the uncertain skein of melody in the second section of "Der Abschied"; a weightless solo flute (David Butt) floating above the voice. John Pritchard shaped the music with warm, rounded gestures, missing something of Mahler's sheer desolation but allowing his players' ideal breadth in which to phrase.

William Lewis - a late replacement for Hermann Winkler - tackled bravely the Schenkerian register of the first song, but, admirably, he preferred to retain a fine tone and to be occasionally drowned. Some disagreements - about rhythm in "Von der Jugend" unsettled things; but "Der Trunkene" had a fine, desperate swagger. To judge from the reception, many in the audience were moved by Janet Baker's singing: but, in the words of the last song, her voice was veiled - a cloudy, vibrant tone obscured the simple purity of Mahler's melodies, and she allowed her voice to flower in generous, wide crescendos at the tops of phrases.

Nicholas Kenyon

ASMF/Marriner Albert Hall/Radio 3

What is one to say of a work by Peter Maxwell Davies that shatters no idols, does not rant and rail against the world, and has no deadly issues of power, corruption or survival to unfold? His Sinfonia Concertante for five solo wind, timpani and strings, which received its first performance at Friday night's Prom (after the intended premiere in America during the recent Britain Salutes New York Festival was cancelled), is a cool, collected essay: complex and restless on the surface as any work of Davies's has to be, but underneath breathing an extraordinary, untypical repose of spirit which suggests that the composer has perhaps found a (temporary?) musical equilibrium.

Which is not to imply that there are no risks taken in this intricately absorbing half-hour piece: a full six minutes of a 13-minute opening movement to a slow introduction is bold indeed: solo flute and oboe gently lay out the minor-thirds over the timpani's F that will provide the tonal argument of the piece, but it is not until an accelerating whips into an almost brazenly Mozartian horn theme over pizzicato strings that the

music's impetus is felt. On Friday the long melodic transformations for the wind did not quite stand out clearly enough; but the musical argument, as in Davies's Second Symphony, is scrupulously organized, and the clarity is increased here by the absence of any flamboyant orchestral effects.

The end of this first movement evaporates exquisitely into what turns out to be the material of the second, where the minor thirds drift airily, like a half-heard echo of Davies's Orkney music: from an F minor-ish third emerges a long, low C on flute and oboe, an alternative point of response to the F - which then, however, the timpani raps home, drawing the wind soloists in the final bars to an unexpectedly sharp unanimity of chording.

Solo flute tries to recapture the mood of lassitude, pondering the F minor-F major thirds, but the timpani brilliantly begins a dancing finale which brings in all the wind soloists - horn burbling, flute scattering, and then oboe eloquently singing the phrase that began the work. Suddenly everything collapses on to the low, quiet C again, but the coda, with its long racing string scales and ringing, peeling woodwind cadenzas, sweeps all doubt away - but leaves behind an unearthy, fading echo.

In a mainly confident first performance, strongly directed by Neville Marriner, Antony Pay (clarinet) stood out among the excellent soloists for his ability to find the meaning as well as the notes; Tristan Fry's timpani playing was equally vivid. A word, too, for Anthony Rolfe Johnson's earlier account of Britten's Les Illuminations: lovely.

Nicholas Kenyon

Rostropovich Festival Buoyant showman

The first Rostropovich Festival has happened at Snape: and with it, at its heart on Saturday night, the apotheosis of the inevitable Slava-and-friends concept in a programme of "Paintings and Music". There they all were: Prokofiev, Akhmatova, Shostakovich, Tsvetayeva, Stravinsky - for the eye in the "Paintings of Fellow Expatriot, Gabriel Glikman" starting in the raw, sculpted distillation of character, and for the ear in the musical tributes of Rostropovich and his wife, all curves, fullness and substantiation.

The pictures, well hung in the unyielding proportions of the Maltings recital room, were spirited via slide and screen into the concert hall, where to the accompaniment of Rostropovich's buoyant verbal showmanship they spoke their own silent subject. In Glikman's own work (think of Chagall, Kandinsky, the cubist Picasso) there is a volatile movement between darlings of colour and laconic wit and blocks of numb stasis drained of colour - and so it was in the recital.

There was Stravinsky, bony, triangular, sitting like a blue Gandhi ("when he smiled he was like an evil old lady"), with the droll scepticism of his 1937 "Russian Song" played with nicely mocking restraint by Rostropovich and Roger Vignoles. There were, on the other hand, the blue hope-drained eyes of Shostakovich: all angles of dry white lines biting on coarse, coarse or hardboard ("his life was angular, chased from one corner to another"); and there was his "Tears for a Dead Child", its question and answer Jewish folksong shared between Jane Mackenzie's dramatic and ever more vibrant soprano and Marcia Swanston's distinctive smoky mezzo.

Marina Tsvetayeva was remembered by Galina Vishnevskaya in a spare, word-parsing performance of Shostakovich's "Hamlet's Dialogue with his Conscience", while portraits of Alexander Blok and Anna Akhmatova, both pierced by the red, beyond of revolution, had their counterparts in Shostakovich and Prokofiev settings.

Prokofiev alone remained with the eyes of a child: past the lancid wit, the biting repartee, Glikman and Rostropovich saw the still blue eyes and full red lips of fairytale, and the C major wonder of the Adagio from Cinderella.

Hilary Finch

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Advertisement for 'The Voice' featuring Ralph Richardson and other performers. Includes details about the show and ticket prices.

Advertisement for the English National Opera at the London Coliseum. Features Don Giovanni and Rigoletto. Includes performance dates and ticket information.



# The dedicated modeller of fashion

I had always been fascinated by shops. I enjoyed pottering with objects and arranging them into patterns. In Jerusalem as a child I loved going into the local corner-shop. Food was scarce, but the couple who owned the shop took pride in displaying their cheeses on marble slabs with net covers like umbrellas and little blue beads around the base. Rows of sausages hung from a pole and on the floor there were sacks full of grain, beautifully laid out. And now, in 1964, I suggested the idea of opening a shop to Fitz. He thought it was silly, as life would revolve around looking after it, but I was feeling more and more infatuated with the idea of having a place to show off the clothes we had been selling through our mail-order business.

We had accumulated lots of rejects and garments that people had sent back to exchange. Without telling Fitz, I hauled them over from our basement warehouse in Motcomb Street to our flat and spent hours arranging them round the living room, hanging them on door frames, fireplaces and cupboards. The next day I telephoned friends and secretaries of fashion writers, announcing a sale.

I put the record player on as loud as I could, playing a Beatles LP. By one o'clock the flat was seething. Every person I had telephoned had told at least 10 others, who in turn had brought friends along. When I telephoned Fitz at his office to come and have a look, I had £500 in a shoe box I was using as a till. Our bedroom had been turned into a changing room. I even had trouble refusing to sell my cushions and casserole dishes. By the time Fitz arrived, the flat looked as if a bomb had hit it. He thought it was a fluke, but for days afterwards people would arrive wanting to know if the sale was still on.

During one of my junk-hunting sprees I spotted a marvellous dilapidated place on the corner of Abingdon Road in Kensington. It had been a chemist's shop and had been closed for quite a while, but there were lots of black and gold signs left and the windows were painted halfway up with scratched black paint with gold-leaf edges. The woodwork outside was

## Suddenly London was filled with long-legged girls and boys

covered in peeling blue-grey paint. I fell in love with it instantly.

I dragged Fitz down there and he loved it too. We found the landlord, who said he wouldn't take less than £20 a week for the premises. We took it on the spot.

The shop was miles away from anywhere, even from Kensington High Street, which in those days was a place where only old ladies shopped. We were both still working at our jobs. Fitz as an advertising account executive and me as a freelance fashion artist, but we redecorated the place at weekends. Fitz painted the walls navy blue. We bought a beautiful Dutch wardrobe for £40, took the doors off and made them into a cash desk. We made long curtains in a William Morris print. A friend lent us two bronze lamps with huge black shades. I refused to have the peeling exterior repainted.

We asked our manufacturer to make us dresses of one style, a smock with very narrow sleeves, in a range of fabrics. He agreed, as a favour. (Many years later, he revealed that he had felt sorry for us.)

While our stock was being manufactured, we received 2,000 orders by post for a brown chalk-striped smock which had been featured in *Woman's Mirror*. Two hundred of them arrived, and Fitz decided to store them at the shop as the Motcomb Street basement was already bulging. We delivered the dresses to the shop late one Friday night.

The next morning, Fitz dropped me off at the shop and left to collect some more dresses from the manufacturer. It was 10 o'clock and the curtains were still drawn across the windows. I left the front door and went into the lavatory. When I came out the shop was packed with girls. In concentrated silence they were all trying on the brown chalk-striped smock.

I turned the record player on. I only had one Beatles LP. The louder the music played, the faster the girls moved and the more people appeared in the shop.

A silent queue formed in front of the cash desk. Each girl had a two-guinea dress on her arm. Not one asked if there were any other styles or other sizes. Nobody knew the price; they just held their purses open. By 11 o'clock, I had sold every dress.

As soon as I could get to the phone, I called Fitz and said: "Quick, grab any dress you can." The shop was still full of people waiting for a delivery. When he arrived, the car's hood was down and brown chalk-striped dresses were heaped up in a mountain behind him. Everyone left the shop and we sold in the street, from the car. We were still selling that brown chalk-striped dress in one size and one colour six months later.

Fitz and I now had no other life than Biba. When the shop opened we had both given up our jobs. Every morning we would feel great anxiety. We were



When she founded the Biba boutique, Barbara Hulanicki became the wardrobe mistress of Swinging London. Born in Palestine and brought up in Brighton before training as a fashion artist, she provided the girls of the golden Sixties with an image which amounted to a cultural statement: stick-thin legs protruded from beneath the abbreviated hems of simple dresses striped in mustard and

mulberry; wide eyes were ringed with colours to match; floppy felt hats and feather boas accessorized the fantasy. Biba even changed the nature of shopping itself, by promoting an informal mood which turned the Kensington premises into a Saturday rendezvous both for those who set the style and for those who followed it. In the first of three extracts from her forthcoming autobiography, Barbara Hulanicki describes how she and her husband, Stephen Fitz-Simon, conceived a phenomenon

girl was prancing around dressed only in her knickers. She was magnetic - her skin was like marble and her features larger than life. It was Julie Christie, getting her wardrobe together for the film *Darling*.

It was almost a year before the name was painted over the door at Abingdon Road. I didn't like it. It was like branding something. The shop looked much better without a name. If people wanted to find us, they would.

(By the end of 1965, the business had outgrown the Abingdon Road shop. As *Swinging London* gathered momentum, Biba was moved to larger premises on Kensington Church Street.)

As opening day approached I was getting more and more nervous. Maybe nobody would follow us the extra 500 yards up the road. We orchestrated a moving party from Abingdon Road to Church Street and arranged a photocall for the press. Our girls wheeled rails full of dresses all the way up Abingdon Road and down Kensington High Street to the new shop, followed by photographers. A pantechon arrived in Church Street

## The more the man in the street whistled, the shorter the skirts became

full of hatstands and girls. The girls were holding Biba bags, in case the name of the shop didn't get mentioned in the stories.

I had been stationed in the new shop all alone waiting anxiously for guests to arrive, when it all happened at once. Cilla Black and Cathy McGowan arrived and so did a million other guests and gatecrashers. Cathy and Cilla clambered on to the lorry and helped to unload the hatstands, and the photographers had a field day. Music was thumping in the shop and the wine rapidly disappeared. Everybody had a good time.

When the last guest left it was 6 o'clock in the evening. The floor was awash with spilled wine. We began to bring out the stock and fill the shelves with T-shirts for the official opening the following day. It was a long night. By morning my brain was still whirring but my body had gone to sleep, so we went and had a greasy breakfast at the neighbouring cafe. When we came back there was a queue outside the shop.

My favourite moments were always just before a new shop was to open: the music would be turned on, the girls ready as if to go on stage, tension mounting and - bang - the doors would open and let in the first customers. This time the shop was full of people within moments. They examined everything - we had branched out into many new areas with everything dyed to match in a large spectrum of muted colours. There were big-brimmed hats, double-breasted wool coats, tights, gloves, bags, jumpers and shirts, dresses and underwear. Even the matching feather boas, which I had intended only to use as decoration, sold like hot cakes.

Our first Saturday in Church Street was astonishing. The shop was four times the size of Abingdon Road but as crowded as the little one had been. The pavement outside was milling with people, every window seat was occupied and I even saw our bank manager take a quick look inside. By the early afternoon the hatstands were bare but still more people came to look.

Two weeks after Church Street opened, in March 1966, a team of reporters from *Time* magazine arrived. The next day it was *Stern* and then *Paris Match*. In their usual unimpressed way, our girls and the customers continued to crowd the shop. America and Europe had discovered, or invented, Swinging London. Long before this the man in the street had taken exposed thighs as part of life, but all of a sudden there were wolf whistles and cries of "Ooh, look at that one". The more they whistled, the shorter the skirts became. Every week I thought that we surely couldn't shorten them any more, but magically there were a few odd inches to go.

It was through absolute ignorance that the mini reached the streets. The short skirt was on the way but it was only seen in showrooms. Courtesans had made a strong impact on the world with his space-age dresses. Mary Quant was the first British designer to show the mini but I still say that our manufacturer, dear old Theo Savva, was the man responsible for putting the mini on the high street. When the jersey allocated for a little suit arrived at his factory it was steaming hot from the finishers. As Fitz bombarded Theo with telephone calls for more and more stock for the opening of the shop, Theo cut the somewhat stretchy double jersey without "resting" it. Jersey that is not rested soon relaxes itself back to its proper width. It was not the uncut fabric that rested - it was the skirts! When I saw the delivery I nearly had a heart attack. The skirts were only 10 inches long. God, I thought, we'll go bust - we'll never be able to sell them. I couldn't sleep, but that little fluted skirt walked out on customers as fast as we could get it on to the stands.

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**TOMORROW:  
The final dream  
takes shape**

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Passion dons a uniform

Last month we created a new publishing house, Mills & Bang, to market a completely new form of novel: romantic military fiction, aimed to satisfy the fantasies of both men and women.

The response was remarkable: all titles were sold out within days of hitting the bookshelves, and *Jumping into Passion* appeared briefly on the Cross-Channel best-seller list.

Now, Moreover Enterprises Ltd is proud to announce a further selection of Mills and Bang novels - the novels that are as tough as old boots yet as soft as a first kiss!

*Cavalry Tulle*, by Yolanda Dabbin Debbie felt the wind streaming through her hair as she kicked Marmaduke into a gallop. How good it felt to be on her favourite horse once more, the soft turf of the downs beneath his hooves and the English Channel twinkling in the sun, way in the distance. Her memories of Oscar seemed just a bad dream.

Suddenly she became gradually aware that another rider was closing in to meet her. Crossly, she reined in and waited for him to arrive.

"I'm sorry," said the newcomer affably, "but this is private property. Restricted, you know."

"To whom, may I ask?"

"Members of the regiment. Captain Bruce Derwent at your service."

"And I," said Debbie coolly, "am Major Deborah Merryweather, newly joined to the regiment."

Derwent's face changed. But before he could bring himself to salute her, a shot rang out and whistled past them. Quick as a flash he had leapt from his horse, bundled her from hers and rolled them both into a safe position in the grass.

"Who's trying to kill us?" she gasped, thrilling strangely to the touch of his uniformed arm.

"Nobody. It's an army firing range. They could kill anybody. By the way," he said, his mouth not six inches from her perfect ear. "I believe you know my best friend, Oscar Threadgold. Major." He added reluctantly.

Oscar! His dark handsome face came before her, with its twisted smile. Then she looked at Bruce's sandy open features. How were their destinies to be intertwined?

"Perhaps you could put me down now, Captain," she said icily.

A Man's Girl, by Grenada Pina "Sorry to bother you, sir," said the sergeant, "but I'd like to have a word about Private Simple."

"What's the trouble?" said the captain.

"Fact is," said the sergeant, "I think Private Simple's a woman."

The captain drummed his pencil on the desk.

"Extraordinary thing to say, sergeant. What makes you think so?"

"Difficult to pin down, sir. The way he walks. The extra large battle tunic. The tendency to use lipstick and shave his legs."

"Does he pull his weight otherwise?"

"Absolutely. Best soldier in the platoon."

"Then I wouldn't worry too much, sergeant. We need all the good men we can get, even if they are women."

Damn, thought the captain. They're on to Yvonne's and my little scheme. It was only as the door closed that the captain realized there was something odd about the sergeant. He was wearing high-heeled shoes. Were their destinies to be intertwined in some strange way?

Free Fall Love, by Alberta Smithwick Rowena, flushing, went hot and cold. She felt limp. There was a roaring in her ears. Not surprising, as she was halfway through her first ever parachute jump.

"I say!" said a voice. She looked round. There was a man in the air near her. "I say. I'd open your parachute if I were you!"

How stupid of her. She pulled the ring and the huge white canopy opened above her. The man smiled and put his thumb up as he floated away. She bated him instantly, and yet there was something about his warm crinkly eyes that told her their destinies would, given half a chance, be on the same downward path together.

(Other titles coming soon: *One Girl's Resistance* by Jeanne Hackett, *NATO Nancy* by Brian Hastings, *Passion in the Pay Corps* by Marjory Hanrahan, etc. etc.)

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 125)

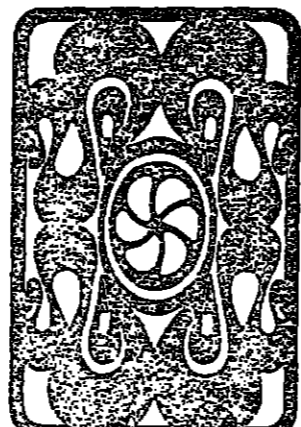
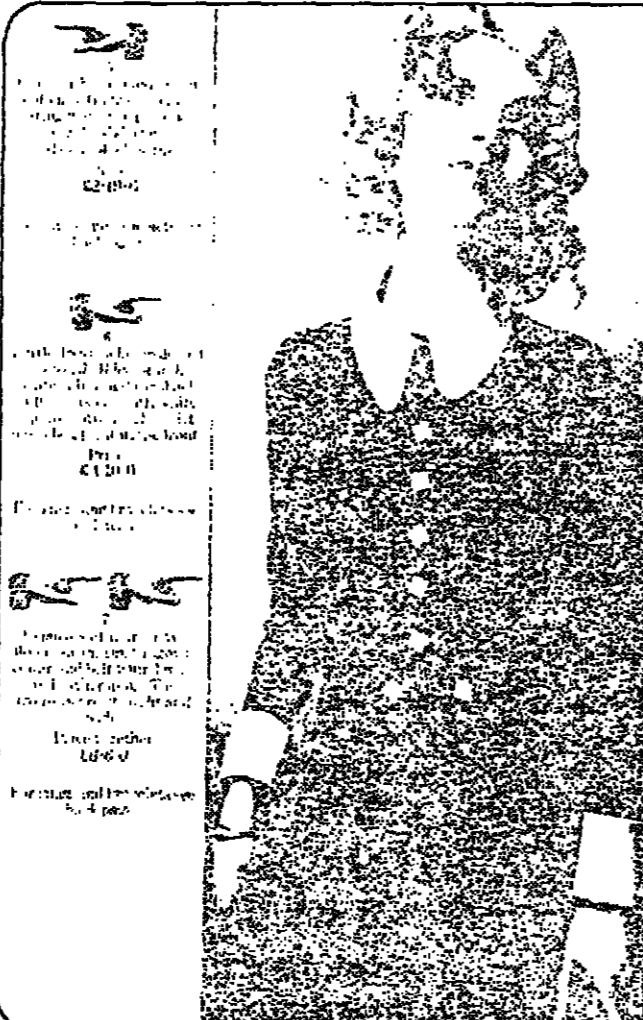


- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS                    | DOWN                      |
| 1 Joint interest (11)     | 2 Concede (5)             |
| 3 Of the flames (7)       | 3 Ballet skirt (4)        |
| 10 Reduce (5)             | 4 Apiece (4)              |
| 11 Pig's back (3)         | 5 False (4)               |
| 13 Catcher's glove (4)    | 6 Moslem ruler's area (7) |
| 16 Den (4)                | 7 Bedroom cleaner (11)    |
| 17 Strong protest (6)     | 8 Chili (11)              |
| 18 Redder (4)             | 12 Expose to air (6)      |
| 20 S African mountain (4) | 14 In addition (3)        |
| 21 Conflict (6)           | 15 Achieve (6)            |
| 22 Fine spray (4)         | 19 Out of date (7)        |
| 23 Russian ruler (4)      | 20 Wager (3)              |
| 24 Ban bomb group (11,1)  | 24 Spasm burn (5)         |
| 25 Perfect (5)            | 25 Indication (4)         |
| 29 Instill (7)            | 26 Food regimen (4)       |
| 30 Bug killer (11)        | 27 Specification (4)      |

SOLUTION TO No 124  
ACROSS: 1 Decibel 5 Hopes 8 UFO 9 Spruce  
10 Usage 11 Beta 12 Heptad 14 Characterless  
16 Egg trip 18 Also 21 Ultra 22 Oxidate 23 Tax  
24 Endue 25 Yogurt  
DOWN: 1 Dose 2 Curse 3 Baccalaureate 4 Lurch  
5 Housebreaking 6 Prattle 7 Sep past  
13 Schedule 15 Abortif 17 Proxy 19 Staff  
20 Bent



Hatstands and mini-dresses: Stephen Fitz-Simon and Barbara Hulanicki surrounded by some of the original Biba girls



Above left: styles (and prices) from the 1969 catalogue. Top right: Cilla Black and Cathy McGowan help the Biba dollies in the move to Church Street. Lower left: an original Biba logotype. Lower right: Stephanie Farrow, a favourite Biba model

never sure if our customers would come back again.

One Tuesday morning the weather was awful. The sky was grey, there was a feel of a thunderstorm coming. The shop was empty. By noon the shop was still empty. I was feeling really depressed - it had all been a flash in the pan, the bonanza was over. We dashed up the road to Kensington High Street. It was empty, too. Not a soul, not one old lady with a shopping basket on two little wheels.

We soon realized that the shopping public reacts identically to the weather and the political situation. When they are depressed, they all depressed at the same time. When the sun comes out they are all happy and go out shopping. When the sun is hot they go to the park to sunbathe and you've lost them. When it rains, if you're a little shop they don't come, if you are a big store they stay with you all day. But it was this nucleus that we found so exciting. For Fitz it was like fishing, and for me it was like hunting through junk shops: you never knew when you would catch a big one.

Our Saturdays were always spectacular, whatever the weather. If it was raining, the shop stank of wet wool and the floor would be awash. If it was sunny the groups of newly-found friends would congregate outside the shop. It became a meeting place. Years later I had letters from people who met at Biba, spent their courtship in Biba on Saturdays, married, had babies and wrapped them in Biba purple nappies. Recently I heard a beautiful girl at the airport calling, "Biba, Biba, to a little girl of about six in a straw hat and smock. We had become a big part of many people's lives.

At 26 Fitz and I felt much older than the others, like Mum and Dad. We worried about the girls who worked in the shop, and their fast lives. Some could cope, but many fell by the wayside by the time they were 19.

I don't think our girls were promiscuous; they picked and chose. If they fancied someone they went right out and got what they were after instead of weaving webs and hypocritical traps, as we had to in the 1950s. In

their flats and bedsits they had no mother waiting for them to see if they came home with a crumpled dress. In the buoyant mid-1960s they all had jobs and they were not used to eating massive meals. They were the postwar babies who had been deprived of nourishing protein in childhood and grew up into beautiful skinny people. A designer's dream. It didn't take much for them to look outstanding. The simpler the better, the shorter the better. Their legs seemed to be never-ending. Suddenly London was filled with long-legged girls and boys who became envied all over the world.

The girls and boys started to travel on new all-in cheap holidays, and to pick up continental elegance, too. There were masses of them and they all seemed to flock to Abingdon Road. With Cathy McGowan endorsing our clothes by wearing them nearly every week to present *Ready Steady Go* on TV, there was a sort of underground

## Inside the shop, the Biba girl became more mysterious

grapevine which was growing daily. As soon as there was a new style the tomtoms would beat out a message wrapped them in Biba purple nappies. Recently I heard a beautiful girl at the airport calling, "Biba, Biba, to a little girl of about six in a straw hat and smock. We had become a big part of many people's lives.

The girls aped Cathy's long hair and eye-covering fringe. Soon their little white faces were growing heavier with stage make-up, lids weighed down with doll-like thick fake lashes. Their matchstick legs were encased in pale tights and low-cut patent pumps. Miniskirts led to the adoption of tights. They seldom needed to wear roll-ons or bras. Their bosoms and tummies

Abridged from *From A to Biba* by Barbara Hulanicki, published by Hutchinson on September 5, price £8.95.

سكزامن الأصل



MODERN TIMES



A sideways look at the British way of life

Not very long ago, when privilege and wealth were the prerogative of the upper classes, there were some people called Emsworth who had titles and butlers called Beach. They also owned a lot of the land over which they hunted, shot and fished.

to make ends meet - so much so that they sometimes had to sell off a wing of a house, or a few hundred acres, or even charge people called Smith, who wanted to see how the Emsworths lived, a couple of shillings to come and look over the house.

and between them cooked up a brilliant wheeze. (It was Goldfinger's idea but Emsworth and Smith quickly saw the logic of it.) To Lord Emsworth, Goldfinger said: "You've got the land but no money; I've got the money and a good head for business - and you" (to Smith) "who haven't much of either could, if all your friends chipped in, afford to buy a part of all the things you've dreamed of owning but could never afford."

Lord Emsworth was happy because he was able to stay on in his estate and pay Fred the gamekeeper, and though he would have preferred not to have all the Smiths and Goldfingers wandering over his land and fishing his rivers, he was a realist and knew that this way at least there might be a bit left for his son. Smith was deliciously happy because his wife could afford a tan and told all her friends that she owned a racehorse (though in fact she had only one-twelfth share).

Penny Perick

Doctor's public orders



Our two most popular national pastimes, nosing into the private lives of the famous and worrying about the state of our health, have been cleverly combined in a new television series to be screened by HTV in the autumn. Called Consider Yourself, it films various celebrities doing what comes naturally and then hauls them in front of a doctor and psychologist to be given a serious talking-to.

Judy Froshaug

Snooks and shares



FISH AND SNIPS

Tan Nelson (left) landowner who runs a trout fishing syndicate

Basically we've got 14 acres of water, consisting of lakes - stocked with brown rainbow trout. There are 35 members of the syndicate a good number - coming right across the board from a director of Barclays Bank to a local scrap metal merchant. I chose people very carefully, by interview, to make sure that

they're not going to abuse the free system. I don't like the sort of person who talks about the masses of fish he catches or who hauls fish out for the sake of it. We have boat and bank fishing: single fly, wet, dry or nymph. We don't allow lures, the whole idea, if you're a sporting man, is to fly-fish. A full rod costs £248 a year an allows you to fish every day in season. You're limited to seven fish a week or two on any one day. If you fish on, you buy. Half rods cost £138 and you can fish for three days a month on any day of your choice. There

HORSE TRADING

Henry Ponsoby (right) syndicate manager of Shefford Bloodstock Services

The racing Establishment has always rather looked down its nose at syndicates. At first the Jockey Club didn't like the whole idea of working class people owning horses, and never contemplated people putting together syndicates professionally. Now they must see the benefits. If I were to count up all the money that's gone back

into racing since I started business in 1977, it would amount to about £750,000 - money the sport would not have had but for syndication. The maximum permitted size of a race-horse owner's syndicate is 12 people, and no person can be a member of more than 12 syndicates, though you can be in as many partnerships of up to four people as you like and can have between 5,000 and 15,000 members in a company such as we've just launched for only £200 per share.

stewards, printers, retired army officers - sons of peers of the realm, policemen - and masses of women. A lot of men bought shares for wives or girlfriends. Now there are a lot more up-market people - chairmen, company directors. People buy in because owning a racehorse is glamorous. If you own a horse you can rub shoulders with the rich and famous. We had a horse running at Cheltenham in the same race as the Queen Mother's horse, both trained by Fulke Walwyn. We've beaten Sangster's horses and the Queen's, and with the new company our aim is to win the Derby.



ROOM SERVICE

Christopher Chapman (left) vice chairman of the Prestige Hotels

There are not that many smart, privately owned hotels left in Britain but there is a growing demand for the kind of quality that used to be associated with the best British hotels, nostalgia for comfort and service and good food and personal attention. Although

the hotels in the group are very different, we all pride ourselves on the high standards we try to achieve, but there is no way in which we could individually afford to do so if we hadn't joined together. This way we can afford a central London office and a full-time marketing executive, and an overseas representative - particularly important for us in North America, where so many of our guests come from.

Because of the very high standards we set there is a natural limit to the number of hotels who can join the group (we are 35 at present). We recently re-examined our standards and raised the minimum. Unfortunately there were some casualties but in the process we attracted others who said that previously they had hesitated to apply "because we didn't quite like all the company you were keeping".

Last year we had to double our subscription to £4,000 a year. We trust each other as individuals and as a group. All the hotels which apply to join are inspected anonymously by our members, several times, before they are proposed. It's because of joint interests and joint surveillance that we are, I think a kind of elite.

Interviews by Judy Froshaug

THE BACK LEGS

Audrey Slaughter (above) former editor of Over 21, part owner of a racehorse

There's no way I could have afforded to buy a horse outright. But I like the glamour and excitement of the races - all those working chaps putting their money on the last race and pretty girls hanging on to their hats - and I fancy the idea of swanking around a bit as

an owner, choosing the colours. Unfortunately, all the best ones had gone. I used to say I'd love a share in a horse. Then a friend came along with a Jockey Club steward who's also a breeder and they found me Window Shopper, a very pretty two-year-old out of Town and Country and Watch 'em Go. She has a nice narrow head and isn't too long in the back. When we first bought her I hadn't an idea about all the extras that go with owning a horse - getting it registered with Wetherby's, paying the vet and the VAT and getting it a passport. Every month

you get these rather frightening bills! I am the chief shareholder, having five shares which cost £355 each. David Blacker, the steward, kept two and so did our friend Count Caki, who was responsible for finding her, really. And a lady called Popsi, whom I haven't yet met, has the other three. I think the idea of owning a bit of a horse probably appeals to millions of women. I'm very pleased with ours. I've no desire to go and pat her nose or give her a sugar lump, but it must be lovely to lead in the winner!



THE SAME BOAT

Tony Chappell (left) managing director of Tarquim Timesharing

The cost of buying a small yacht is prohibitive to many people, but spread among 15 or 20 it becomes possible. We even have members who could afford to buy outright but don't want to make a large outlay on a boat they may use for only two weeks a year and which, for the remaining period, will be idle in the Mediterranean, deteriorating. And maintenance costs, along, would be massive. People want ownership for a variety of reasons: many have found that yachting is a pleasant family activity but that sort of boat whose cost would come within their budget is not exactly

BANG GANG

Jonathan Abbott (right) writer, and life-long shooter with his own syndicate

Shooting's an expensive sport, like yacht-racing, or polo, if you come in from outside. The best number of people to shoot with is about six, anything over eight is not really on, and 10. In my father's day anything beyond that was referred to as a hotel shoot. A syndicate is a bit like Dad's Army - a lot depends on the people in it. It's never the same as a private shoot of course, but it's a matter of finance. The cost of running a shoot could be £12,000 a year if you had to pay for everything. Split between six of you it's feasible. It costs less of course if one of the things is free - say one member is a land-

owner, or a farmer, with a gamekeeper. There are various kinds of syndicates - shared expenses syndicates, wandering syndicates. Some landowners are deterred by the whole idea and invite people to pay to shoot. The danger with this is that those who are paying are often suspicious that they're not getting the best shooting but are paying for the owner to shoot with his friends in the best woods or on Boxing Day. Anyone with the slightest bit of intelligence who can produce a place to shoot and someone to look after it could form a syndicate: that part isn't difficult - it's the people. There are an awful lot of wingers about. The rules are simple: respect the shoot and obey the captain.

Interviews by Judy Froshaug



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Philip Towle warns against the new spirit of Gaullism

Gerald Kaufman

# THE TIMES DIARY

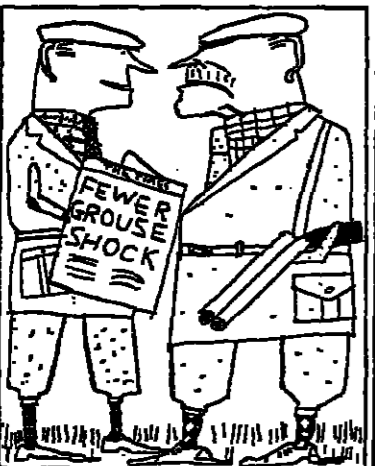
## Diary divide

There will be a fringe beyond the fringe at this year's Labour Party conference in Brighton. Party headquarters had refused to list in the conference diary meetings organized by groups which are not on the official register. That includes, of course, Labour Party units such as the Labour Victory Campaign, the Labour Campaign on Ireland, and the Labour Abortion Rights Campaign. *Tribune* received an invitation to list details of its meeting. Ken Livingstone's paper, *Labour Herald*, did not (though it may yet be admitted). Mandy Moore of Socialists for Labour Victory says her organization will aim to get an "alternative diary" with a comprehensive list of the week's events into the hands of every delegate. "It is the diary which most delegates follow when deciding how to spend their evenings," she says, "so being excluded is quite important."

## String along

PHSausage jokes are coming in as thick and, dare I say, as stodgy as the sausages themselves, of which the classic wartime memory is that they were half bread because butchers found it difficult to make both ends meet, and so customers did not know whether to put mustard on them or marmalade. The popular favourite of the moment is the man who goes to the doctor and says: "My friends all say I'm mad because I like sausages." "That's no problem - I rather like sausages myself." "Oh good - you can come round and see my collection." Today's British Sausage Time clock, though, goes to A. Smith of SE13 for this risible riddle. "I heard Harold Wilson wanted the ketchup?" "Because he was past the sauce age (passed the sausage)." Oh dear, I think I've burst my skin.

BARRY FANTONI



"Cheer up! I've just seen a brace of animal liberators"

## The leader...

National pride may not be appropriate on such an occasion, but it is true that the European Community Youth Orchestra, who give their first Prom tonight, include more British players than from any other EEC nation. Of the 134 players chosen from 4,000 who auditioned, 44 are British. Next most numerous are the Germans, with 20 fewer.

## Daisy, Daisy!

I have had a polite phone call from Henry Hardy of the Oxford University Press offering literary immortality to the winner of our Saturday competition to fill the gap in the manuscript of Daisy Ashford's *The Life of Father McSwiney*, but only if we correct a misprint which crept in. When the second edition of the book is published Dr Hardy hopes to include the winning entry (suitably asterisked) so as to complete the sense of the Pope's après-theatre activities. But the gap which has to be filled is of about 34 words between "in his Public" and "was rather" and about three words between "was rather" and "they caught the fleas". Aspiring imitators of four-year-old prose style please note.

## Underhand

A sharp dispute has arisen between the leading auction houses and the Victoria & Albert Museum. It concerns the latter's cricket team, which is alleged to be full of ringers. The V & A recently played Society's assembled champions in Tomorrow they meet Christie's and the antecedents of their team will be closely scrutinized. "It is no good playing febrile types who turn out in Fiorucci track suits and stand on the boundary remarking the too, too Turmeresque sky, oblivious to the ball flying past them," says the V & A's captain, Nicky Bird. "Our players all have a connection with the Museum. Our opening bowler, for example, sheltered in the doorway during a shower. We feel it is not how you play the game, but whether you win or lose."



This is the product of four years' high-powered market research by the British Airports Authority and Breadwinners Ltd. Concessionaires for a line of souvenirs that are expected to smarten up the unacceptable face of aviation in this country. Badges, T-shirts, even teddy bears are on offer to catch the air traveller at an impressive age and fix a cuddly image in his tiny mind. Harry Heathrow, Gary Stanwick, Stanley Stansted, Gordon Glasgow, Percy Prestwick and Archie Aberdeen are merely the vanguard in a merchandising experiment that will take off in a big way PHS'

In proportion to their influence, too much attention is devoted to the minority who criticize Nato strategy from the left and too little to the attitudes of the general public and to those who criticize it from the centre or right - the "neo-Gaullists". This latter group, which includes a number of European politicians, some close to power, is more influential and therefore a far more insidious long-term threat to the Atlantic alliance than the small and obviously demoralized membership of CND, whose policies have been massively rejected at the polls.

Mr John Nott, the former Defence Secretary, declared himself a Gaullist and supported the Trident programme as a hedge against Nato's collapse. He also said that the US had said that the US has subordinated European defence to the interests of its world struggle with the Soviet Union. He has called for the formation of a European alliance within Nato and the development of a European nuclear force.

Sir James Cable, former head of the Foreign Office Planning Staff, has called Britain's dependence on the US an addictive drug and suggested that it may have contributed to our national decline. He has also called for Britain to follow the French lead in defence policy, to close the US bases here and to limit Britain's commitment to the alliance mainly to maritime forces.

None of those quoted would like to see the precipitate collapse of Nato (and neither of course did de Gaulle) but, by suggesting that the alliance may disappear or that we should weaken our commitment to it, they advocate policies which could set in train an irreversible movement towards such a collapse. This is particularly so because their criticism coincides with growing attacks on the alliance from many Americans who resent the discrepancy between the US and European defence budgets.



John Nott, echoing the line set by de Gaulle. Right, Senator Stevens, a trend to a new isolationism

When Nato was established in 1949 the US was the greatest economic power in history and it seemed reasonable to ask it to protect the impoverished Europeans. By agreeing to this request Washington overruled all the foreign policy traditions which the US had built up since independence. But today the Europeans are not impoverished; wages in Copenhagen or Hamburg are now generally as good as those in Detroit or Dallas. Yet in 1981 the Americans spent \$782 per head on defence while the Danes spent \$280.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the traditional US hostility towards involvement in Europe has shown signs of revival, and that the Republican whip in the Senate, Senator Ted Stevens, and others have sought to reduce the US forces stationed in Europe.

Is the time then ripe for a mutually agreed divorce? In July 1969 *The Times* declared, "at present 250 million peoples of Western Europe rely on 200 million Americans to defend them from 200 million Russians although the Russians have 700 million angry Chinese at their backs. This proposition has only to be stated for it to be seen to be unreasonable."

Since then that proposition has been put with increasing frequency and force. On the other hand, if 350,000 American servicemen stationed in Western Europe, and the

incomparably the most successful arms control measures evolved since 1945.

The only advantage which the Europeans might acquire from the break-up of Nato would be a slight reduction in the risks of becoming involved in a war which began somewhere else in the world. But this cannot be taken for granted: in most cases Europe's strategic interests in the Third World coincide with those of the US, while, if the US and Soviet Union were to go to war, it is inconceivable that a strategically vital area such as Europe would be left unscathed.

If Nato did collapse we should most certainly try to fashion an adequate West European defence. But we should be aware of the magnitude of the problems involved. West Europeans can still do much, if they so choose, to strengthen the cohesion and military effectiveness of the alliance by increasing their share of the defence burden to a more equitable level and thereby working out a mutually acceptable relationship with the US.

But if the alliance did disintegrate, through a combination of insurmountable tensions and flawed perceptions of interest, no alternative strategy - whether in the form of neutralism or of military cooperation among the Europeans - could ensure the long-term security of Europe as effectively as the alliance has done in the past. It is above all in the period of uncertainty and confusion which would follow the collapse of Nato that each state would be most vulnerable to Soviet threats and blandishments and the dangers of war would be most acute.

The author is a Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge. His article is based on a monograph, *Europe Without America: Could We Defend Ourselves?* published by the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies, 13-14 Golden Square, London W1.

# When a ticket to the top cost 1s 4d

Two months after its disaster in the general election the Labour Party is still in a condition of shock. This is healthy. It would have been unhealthy if party members had shrugged off the events of June 9 as just another setback, easily capable of being put right after a gentle period of reassessment. Very few have made that ostrich-like mistake. Indeed, there has been an almost masochistic tendency to pile on the gloom.

Many Members of Parliament who narrowly squeaked home (often in constituencies previously regarded as safe), rather than congratulating themselves and each other on their survival have instead in many cases been assessing their chances of re-election next time with some pessimism. In analysis after analysis, prominent Labour figures have harshly demonstrated not only the near-elimination of the party's support in vast tracts of the country, but also the disturbing drift away from Labour in areas whose staunch loyalty was for generations taken for granted.

Even the ludicrously protracted leadership election has brought its benefits. The four candidates, unable to keep silent during the four-month campaign, have issued manifestos, written articles, delivered speeches, taken part in debates. As well as making ritual speeches about aspects of policy, they have felt obliged again and again to return to discussing the state of the party. That some of their conclusions seem to me to be mistaken is not the point. In thinking hard about the party's principles, its role, its disgraceful recent past and its disorganised potential for the future, they have enabled - perhaps forced - the membership to participate in that thinking process too.

The leadership election process itself has been inevitably subjected to reappraisal, little of it favourable. The party of the people - as it still thinks of itself - has been compelled unhappily to accept that for the first time in 80 years anyone seeking its highest offices has to have money. Affiliated organizations demand copies, sometimes in the thousands, of statements by candidates, the cost of production and of postage is phenomenal. Candidates have to tour the country, addressing Labour Party and trade union meetings, the travelling expenses are considerable.

When Harold Wilson was elected leader 20 years ago, his election expenses totalled 1s 4d (the cost of telephone calls asking over-ardent supporters not to canvass for him). Now the Labour press is full of appeals by campaign managers for

campaigning funds. Many have come to believe that this is not the way to conduct Labour Party elections.

Again, the internal democracy of the trade unions has become a subject of debate, in a manner not agreeable to many leading unions but extremely salutary for the prospects of genuine democracy within those unions. Decisions to favour one candidate or another, if made by an executive council or a delegate conference, have been unconvincedly defended. Even consultation of members, embarked upon with whatever good intentions, has often been cumbersome, incomplete or faulty. It is clear that, even if the electoral college survives in its present form, it will be difficult to repeat these elephantine procedures in future contests. If this election convinces unions that they will have to put their own house in order, such a conversion will undermine many of the glib arguments that Norman Tebbit has used in seeking to vindicate his recently published anti-trade union proposals.

Labour activists know that the party cannot be allowed to drift, simply because events, instead of allowing such a drift, will provide an almost non-stop series of tests by which Labour's efforts at recovery will be gauged. By-elections will come along and Penrith, providing Labour with yet another lost deposit has demonstrated that unless the apparently remorseless electoral trend is reversed, each by-election could be a further milestone along the road of the party's decline. In little more than nine months, as will come the local elections, and shortly after them the elections to the European Assembly, in which Labour could have difficulty in defending even its present poor representation.

Labour on June 9 was sustained, insofar as it was sustained at all, by the residual loyalty of 28 per cent of the electorate. Many of those voters were giving a final chance to the party of their parents and grandparents. Each of those previous supporters, as well as the allegiance of new voters, will have to be won anew every time the polling booths open. Labour cannot afford to take a single elector for granted any longer. The next hurdle will come at the party conference, now less than seven weeks away. Even if that hurdle is surmounted, there will still be more ahead capable of sending the party sprawling. If Labour fails at the first hurdle, many spectators may have lost interest by the time the next is reached.

The author is Labour MP for Manchester, Gorton

Anne Sofer

# Palmy days for the council counsel

It is sometimes said that the group of people that benefited most from the French Revolution were lawyers. Those who kept their heads, that is. And it seems that the same thing is happening in London in these revolutionary times.

I am astonished that the Bar Council has not mounted a campaign to save the GLC. I had expected, by now, petitions and probing questions in Parliament. Or at the very least a letter to *The Times* signed by 20 eminent heads of chambers.

But perhaps it is happening after all - in an appropriately discreet manner, words in the ear of ministers at the Reform Club. That must be it.

The truth is that the Bar has done tremendously well out of the GLC in the last two years - as it has out of all the new left-wing councils. Since the traumatic shock of the Law Lords' decision on London Transport fares in late 1981, the evolving attitude of the left towards the law has been fascinating to watch. Tempted at first to rail at the whole legal system as merely an arm of capitalist oppression, and the judges as pawns of a Tory government, then to indulge in futile confrontationalist tactics (the "Can't Pay, Won't Pay" campaign), they quickly came to realize that the law was an exciting game in which they would play. And it is fair to say that the Conservative forces that challenged the legitimacy of the fare reductions in the first place (Bromley Council *et al.*) have only themselves to blame for this development.

In any case the GLC Labour leaders found lawyers who told them that the Law Lords' judgment did not after all mean what it said, and they could decrease fares. They found lawyers who told them that they did not have to carry out the Ministry of Defence's civil defence exercises. When they had one legal opinion suggesting they would be at risk of personal surcharge if they did not put up the price of school meals, they had little difficulty in finding another to say they could perfectly legitimately keep it where it was.

They have even (and here's an irony for the party of the free unionism) got legal advice on how to act unilaterally in imposing decisions on their own staff association.

The law on local authority powers and discretion is based on the anachronistic assumption that there is a consensus among all thinking men and women about what is "reasonable". Councillors are obliged by law to act in a way that is not unreasonable. The leading legal definition of this term is Lord Green's judgment in the celebrated "Wednesbury Corporation" case of 1967. This dictum, though it is always quoted with veneration, is not much help, being entirely opaque and tautologous (it reads, *inter alia*: "Unreasonable" is a

general description of what must not be done"....

What happy days of *noblesse oblige* when everybody in power could agree on what was done and not done. And indeed it lasted a surprisingly long time. During the nine years I have been in local government, the first seven were spent in the innocent belief that I was elected to take decisions on the basis of my own judgment, and I never thought of taking legal advice. What thin years these must have been for the local government bar.

All that is changed. With consensus gone, with challenges to the status quo mounting in volume and bitterness from all sides, we do not feel safe even to open our mouths, let alone raise our hands to vote, without a counsel's opinion - and usually two or three.

But of course, since the law depends on a decision of the most subjective of terms (not only "reasonable" but "proper" and "relevant"), it is not too difficult to find lawyers to suit political taste. Barristers are people too, after all, and the range of their political beliefs stretches from the crusty old reactionaries on the right whose view of civic responsibilities goes back to the "poor law" and the workhouse, to those trendy left transvestites of the Temple (wig and gown and *m'*learned friend by day, denim and CND badge and comradely by night) whose vision is of the new collectivist dawn. (For some of the latter the growth in local government work has brought not only liberty but liberation; they have been enabled to "come out" and are now sometimes seen around County Hall wearing their evening rig in daylight.)

One of the ironies of the present situation is that it seems to be proving a favourite maxim of the Prime Minister: that private enterprise always performs better than the state. The freelance barristers we employ always seem to outwit the parliamentary draftsmen. Indeed, maybe the Bar will do even better out of the Government's forthcoming direct assault on local government than it has done out of the present cold war. Just as the tax lawyers always find ways of keeping their clients' money out of the clutches of the Inland Revenue, so these new magicians of the local government Bar will find loopholes through which to preserve local government's powers.

It is an old friend of mine who is both a barrister and a former distinguished head teacher of a local authority always used to say when contemplating some new and particularly insane piece of legislation: "Well, it all makes work for the working man to do." And so it will no doubt. With thousands on the brief.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/LEA for Camden, St Pancras, North.

# Lest we forget: the great memorials

White elephants or national heritage? Gillian Tindall previews an exhibition opening in London tomorrow

The grave may not be either a fine or private place, but the law protects it today far more assiduously than it does the abode of the living: a dead body has a more secure tenure of its six feet of earth than any house occupies in life. Tenants can be evicted, property compulsorily purchased, whole districts can be, and have been, swept away - but a special Act of Parliament is commonly needed to dislodge the dead from their resting place. Even where this does not apply (in the municipal cemeteries as opposed to the privately owned ones) the public health-cum-ecclesiastical regulations covering the removal and reinterment of remains offer a formidable deterrent.

In any case there is such popular prejudice against digging up the dead that local authorities will not usually risk an outcry by suggesting it, and such property companies as have felt a passing temptation towards what they assume to be a choice piece of potential real estate have almost always changed their minds and slunk off when the realities of the situation have been made plain to them. It has proved extremely difficult for cemetery owners to sell off even unconsecrated and unadorned segments of their land: both Highgate in north London and Nunhead in the south such a scheme has been mooted at one time or another in an attempt to stave off the imminent bankruptcy of the companies concerned, and in both instances the protests were such that the scheme was abandoned.

People don't much want to look after their local cemeteries or pay for

them to be looked after, but they have a largely unthought-of dread of anyone putting them to any other use. Even attempts to turn old burial grounds into gardens, the one use readily sanctioned by the law, can become contentious.

Both Highgate and Nunhead offer a fine example of a further paradox in a topic riddled with paradoxes. Both were established in 1839 and 1840 respectively, by the London Cemetery Company, with 37 and 52 acres apiece, they were part of the hygienic (and profitable) movement of the times to remove death from the "choked charnel houses" of City churchyards and install it more commodiously in spacious suburban grounds. Yet a hundred-odd years later, history has come around in a circle: Highgate, Nunhead, Tower Hamlets and the like have, in turn, become choked with the dead and with their dilapidated funerary furniture, and once again words such as "decay", "disease" and "desecration" are invoked in a plea that someone should do something about the situation. A wild garden is all very well, but a vandalized jungle defeats every purpose. Most of the once-profitable companies are extinct or in liquidation, their one capital asset transformed into a remarkable but appalling white

elephant for which no one wants to be financially responsible. The very cult of death which exacerbated the problem of the dead. For centuries, most people were buried simply in wooden shrouds, and wooden crosses were the norm; returning to dust meant just that because, within a hundred years, both visible and invisible relics obligingly rotted away. The universal use of the coffin and the general introduction of stone memorials in the eighteenth century changed all that - and indeed subverted the whole purpose of consigning a body to the earth.

The private family grave, purchased "in perpetuity" and marked by a substantial edifice, is a logical absurdity, a vain assertion of this life and their power to transcend even mortality.

Thus the final paradox is that these old cemeteries have no value as an evocation of loved individuals - they evoke, rather, the knockabout drama of tumbler-bogies and ghouls - but they are valuable as a social record and as a repository of sculpture. Highgate's horse, lion and recumbent dog are well known - and may be viewed again, in photographs, at the exhibition, at the

Museum of London - but almost all the big London cemeteries and many of the provincial ones have a line in weeping angels, be-willed urns and eccentric canopies.

Quis custodiet? The sums of money once paid by the grave owners to have them looked after have been rendered derisory by time, inflation and the imroads of nature; and in any case, these works of art, in their now-wild setting, are not private property but a public legacy. William Morris's dictum, originally applied to buildings, seems apposite to cemeteries also: "These... do not belong to us only. They belonged to our forefathers and will belong to our descendants unless we play them false... We are only trustees for those who will come after us."

Yes, but who are to be the trustees? Local authorities, understandably, are either unwilling or inefficient in assuming the burden of the upkeep of what is not just a local institution: bodies of local people may be dedicated but lack both real power and funds. This month an appeal for Highgate is being launched - but the real need is a campaign for a national body comparable with the National Trust to assume overall control for what is, after all, a national asset.

# Why the sugar isle is in such a stir

Port Louis, Mauritius

As the campaign for the Mauritian general election on Sunday enters the final lap, most of the smart political money in this Indian Ocean sugar island is on the Mouvement Militant Mauricien (MMM) of 38-year-old Paul Bérenger, a member of the white Franco-Mauritian minority, to win by a show hand. But the wisest punters are hedging their bets. For, as the wily former agriculture minister, Sir Satsam Soolee, puts it, "today's enemy can be tomorrow's friend."

It is only 14 months since Mauritius, 720 square miles of coral-fringed volcanic rock inhabited by a racially mixed population of more than 990,000, last went to the polls and swept the left-wing MMM into power in alliance with the smaller Parti Socialiste Mauricien (PSM). The alliance won all 62 directly elected seats.

The octogenarian Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the Hindu doctor who had led Mauritius for 14 years since independence from Britain, and had dominated the local political scene for a decade before that, failed to gain a seat.

The victorious alliance had not been in power for more than a few weeks, however, before its leaders were squabbling among themselves. It survived a political crisis last October and limped on until March 22 when Mr Bérenger, the Finance Minister, resigned with 10 cabinet colleagues, claiming he was not getting full support for the unpopu-

lar measures needed to straighten out the country's parlous finances.

The Prime Minister, Anerood Jugnauth, a 53-year-old Hindu who trained as a lawyer in Britain and had been president of the MMM since 1973, parted company with Mr Bérenger, the MMM's founder, and formed a new party, the Mouvement Socialiste Militant (MSM), but he did not have a clear majority and was forced to call an election.

The MSM consists of Mr Jugnauth and some other Indian defectors from the MMM, plus virtually the whole of the PSM, whose youthful leader, Harish Boodhoo, represents a populist Hindu conservatism that has developed distinctly communalist and anti-white overtones. Mr Jugnauth and Mr Boodhoo accuse Mr Bérenger of being power-hungry and of betraying the "socialist" cause for which they fought together last year.

This, however, has not stopped the MSM from forming an alliance with the discredited Labour Party of Sir Seewoosagur.

Mr Bérenger has his own credibility gap. He was largely responsible for the strong emphasis in last year's MMM-PSM manifesto on redistributing wealth, raising living standards and improving welfare services. But it was he, as Finance Minister, who had to announce to the public the postponement of most of these programmes because of the economic stringencies required by the World Bank and the International

Monetary Fund in return for financial assistance.

At the bank's urging, Mr Bérenger reduced the controversial export duty on sugar. The sugar industry, which furnishes more than three-quarters of Mauritian foreign exchange earnings, is in real financial difficulty, but it is also controlled by the *grands blancs*, the white Franco-Mauritian minority. Mr Bérenger thus laid himself open to the thinly veiled racial taint of being a lackey of (white) big business.

Certainly, it is paradoxical that Mr Bérenger, the radical firebrand who learnt his politics on the student barricades in Paris in 1968, built his political career in Mauritius on trade union organization, and was even imprisoned for a year in the early 1970s, is now privately the preferred candidate of many conservative Mauritian businessmen. Mauritius's foreign creditors also see him as the man best equipped to get the economy back on the rails.

The history of Mauritius is as surprising as its politics. Uninhabited for most of recorded history, it was colonized sporadically by the Dutch in the seventeenth century and settled permanently in 1721 by the French, who imparted their culture and language on the island, established the sugar industry and introduced African slaves. Their mixed blood descendants now form the Creole population and their pidgin French dialect is the nearest thing to a lingua franca. In 1810 the French were defeated

by the British, who abolished slavery and instead imported indentured labour from India. Today 69 per cent of the population are Indians (52 per cent Hindus and 17 per cent Muslims), 25 per cent Creoles and 6 per cent Franco-Mauritians and Chinese.

This racial and cultural witch's brew has developed into one of the liveliest multi-party democracies in the world. The high quality (mainly French) press is unfeared, the judiciary is independent and there are no political prisoners. It is entirely in keeping with Mauritius's record that it may now become the first country under black majority rule to elect a white prime minister.

Whichever group comes to power will have to operate for some years within the narrow limits set by the IMF and the World Bank. The island is heavily in debt, one in every four Mauritians of working age is unemployed, most of the jobs being in the 15-24 age group, and the sugar industry has been operating at a loss for several years.

In practice, there are restraints on foreign policy, too, despite the radical rhetoric of the MMM on non-alignment. Nor is anyone seriously contemplating any action that might disrupt the lucrative South African tourist trade.

All the main contending parties are pledged to turn Mauritius into a republic within the Commonwealth under a non-executive president.

Michael Hornsby





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

### THE TURKISH QUESTION

Can Turkey still stay as a Western ally when she returns to democracy again? Can she believe her allies when they agreed with her "Evenism" in her most critical days? Can Turkey rely on these countries again?

Those questions are asked in a document which, as reported in *The Times* last week, emanates from the sixteen Turkish political leaders of right and left who have been interned since June 2 in the disused radar station at Zincirlikuyu, near Canakkale on the Dardanelles. The authors of the document may not have intended it for publication, or at least may not have wished to be publicly associated with it. But there is no doubt that it does accurately reflect their views, and that they wished these views to be known in opinion-forming and policy-making circles in Europe and the United States.

The questions are in any case ones which such circles should be asking themselves with increasing discomfort. Up to now the prevailing tendency in the West has been to give General Evren and his regime the benefit of the doubt. They did, after all, put an end to the terrorism that was claiming twenty lives a day when they took over in September 1980, and to the parliamentary stalemate which had paralysed Turkey's political system. They allowed Mr Turgut Ozal, the monetarist guru of the incumbent government, to carry on his work of stabilising Turkey's finances and restoring her foreign credit.

Periodic military interventions to put the country back on course are hardly unprecedented in Turkey. There was one in 1969, another in 1971, both of which were followed by a fairly swift resumption of the democratic process. The generals of 1980 promised to do the same again, only to make a more thorough job of it this time.

That, to the political establishment both in Turkey itself and in the West, is what they appeared at first sight to be doing. True, in the process they arrested very large numbers of people, and there was a growing body of

evidence that many of those people were tortured during interrogation. But the scale of terrorism to be dealt with seemed to justify a large number of arrests, and unhappily - torture had been by no means unknown in Turkey even under civilian government.

True, the limitations on freedom of expression seemed rather draconian, but they were widely assumed to be only a temporary aspect of martial law. True, the constitution promulgated last year seemed rather heavily weighted in favour of the executive power and against the freedom of the individual, but that was perhaps a necessary prophylactic against the excesses of the 1970s. True, the referendum held to ratify it was hardly a free and fair choice, but rather than quibble about that it was surely better to accept the result and get back to civilian rule?

Sustained by such arguments, politicians and media alike, in the West, have more or less consciously applied a lower standard to the regime's performance on human and civil rights than they would to any other European country, west or east. The long drawn out trial of twenty-seven intellectuals, including a retired ambassador (brought to court shaven-headed, refused permission to go abroad for cancer treatment, and now facing a probable ten-year prison sentence) for the heinous crime of forming a "peace association", has generally received down-pat attention. The American government seems unperturbed by the fact that the correspondent of United Press International was beaten up when he applied for a passport and has still not been given one five months later, in spite of written assurance to the contrary from the Turkish ambassador in Washington. One can imagine the reaction if a Polish journalist working for an American news agency were to be similarly treated.

Why? Because Turkey, unlike Poland, is part of the West.

Because martial law had been introduced there to save democracy, not to stamp it out. Or so we thought, and so - it is fair to say - many mainstream Turkish politicians thought until this year. But such a view is becoming less tenable.

The purge of universities this spring, directed not merely against Marxists but against even the most mildly left-leaning liberals, was hardly the act of a regime intending to restore democracy in any meaningful sense. Even so, the authorisation of political parties in April, in preparation for the elections due in November, seemed to offer a chance for free debate to resume.

The real moment of truth came on May 31, when the regime banned the first of the new parties that seemed likely to win substantial popular support and ordered the detention of Mr Sileyman Demirel, the oft-reelected conservative prime minister of the past two decades, along with thirteen other former politicians and two of the new party's would-be founders. Since then it has vetoed personalities to prevent other potentially popular parties, of both left and right, from reaching the quota of thirty founding members which it has itself fixed. The deadline for formation of parties is now fast approaching and it is clear that only those whose leaders have been hand-picked by the generals will be allowed to qualify. Even they will have to submit their lists of candidates to a further veto.

Democracy means allowing the people to make their own choices - which, it now appears, is precisely what Turkey's generals are unwilling to do. In these circumstances it will be difficult for the rest of the world to accept the government that emerges from the elections (if they are held) as genuinely representative of the Turkish people. It looks as though what is planned is not, after all, the restoration of democracy but the legitimisation of continued military rule.

### RUSSIA'S GEORGIAN FRIENDS

Nationalist demonstrations in the Soviet republic of Georgia are disrupting the authorities' efforts to mark the bicentenary of the Treaty of Georgievsk which in August 1783 placed Eastern Georgia under Russian protectorate. Explaining why, in this age of decolonization, the country incorporated into the Soviet empire are still ruled by the Russian capital presents a major problem for the Soviet leadership, which generally tries to portray such an anniversary as a "manifestation of friendship" between the Russian people and the minority nation. The minorities are told that their historic ties with Russia, raised to a new level by the 1917 Revolution, have assured them a higher degree of civilization than they could have achieved independently. There is some truth in this claim, but it is not an argument which now receives much support in an international forum such as the United Nations, nor is it accepted by nationalists in the USSR.

Last month about a hundred people demonstrated in Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, demanding the release of two young nationalists arrested for circulating leaflets calling for a boycott of the official anniversary celebrations; they argued that the treaty became "the basis for the annexation of Georgia". Five demonstrators were arrested and a further twenty were detained

but later released after police interrogation. Various illegal journals are circulating clandestinely in the republic; in *Sakartvelo*, for example, several prominent Georgian historians are cited to refute the Soviet propaganda line on the 1783 treaty. Recently a young history student, David Berdzenishvili, was arrested and charged with editing the unofficial journal *Samvelo* (The Bell Tower) which is described as the "organ of the Republican Party of Georgia".

Georgian civilization in fact has much deeper historical roots than that of the Russian people. A Georgian kingdom is recorded in the third century B.C. and Georgia has been Christian since 337 A.D. The Georgian alphabet is unique and predates Cyrillic by centuries; the earliest preserved Georgian writing dates back to the fifth century. The Christian Russians to the north seemed natural protectors for the Georgians who were repeatedly under attack from the Turks and Persians in the south but protection came at the cost of annexation by the expanding Russian Empire. In May 1920 the hard-pressed Soviet government signed a treaty recognizing Georgian independence and sovereignty, but ten months later the Red Army occupied the independent state and established Bolshevik rule. Georgia's famous son Joseph Dzhughashvili

- better known as Stalin - had no sympathy for "bourgeois nationalism" in his homeland. Georgians joke that in a fair exchange "the Russians gave us communism; we gave them Stalin".

The republic's main Russian-language newspaper *Zarya Vos-toka* is running regular features on the bicentenary as a "remarkable festival of friendship and fraternity". It recently reported that the aim was "the active propaganda of the wise Leninist nationality policy of the party, the educating of workers in a spirit of devotion to the ideas of eternal friendship between the Georgian and Russian peoples". But it is an uphill struggle; the evidence of nationalist discontent persists. In 1977 Vladimir Zhvaniya was sentenced to death for bomb attacks on public buildings. In 1978, after demonstrations in Tbilisi, the authorities agreed to confirm Georgian as the republic's official language in the new constitution. Students of Tbilisi University have frequently demonstrated in defence of their national heritage. In 1981 about a thousand students successfully demanded the reinstatement of a professor dismissed for his ideologically suspect lectures on Georgian literature. Further demonstrations and protests seem likely before the official celebrations reach their peak in October.

### THE WATCHERS ON THE LOCH

It is difficult to be neutral about the Loch Ness Monster. Like the virtues and attributes of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr Tony Benn or Miss Koo Stark, people of all sorts and conditions tend to express firm views on the subject. In at least one household the beast is lusted with the Abominable Snowman and God by inquisitive children as a test of their parents' propensity for faith. It can be difficult explaining to a four-year-old that the Almighty is in a rather different league from the other two.

Of the three, despite the efforts of the World Council of Churches in Vancouver, the Monster attracted the most headlines last week. Loch Ness, it seems, is humming with electronic gadgetry as hunters try, fifty years since the first sighting by Mrs Mackay of

Drumadrochit, to snatch data, photographic and/or sonic, which will prove beyond all doubt that the creature exists. Though heavy sceptics will not be convinced until it is captured alive or in carcass form.

Last week's pictures of the vessel "The New Atlantis" plying the deep, mysterious waters in the shadow of Urquhart Castle - the photogenic setting of so many sightings - was, in a strange way, depressing. New technology versus the prehistoric seems a bit unfair. Unlike a nuclear powered submarine the Monster cannot take countermeasures, short of rearing up suddenly and paralyzing the ship's skipper with fright or overturning the boat altogether.

On a deeper level, too, it was disturbing. After the initial stage of curiosity had abated, would it

not seem tragic if the beast's existence was proven, particularly if it was brought into captivity? The poetry would drain from Loch Ness. There would be a sense of loss, of mystery and magic punctured, like the replacement of steam locomotives by diesels or the Latin Mass by the vernacular.

There is, of course, a school of thought which treats the whole monster affair as an early and immensely successful job creation scheme invented in 1933 by an enterprising journalist on the *Inverness Courier*. If true, it would be a pity if that play was rumbled as well. May the watchers on the loch have a happy holiday. May they take some good holiday snaps. More shots of that head and neck and those marvellous humps would be most welcome. But, most of all, may their success be partial.

### Implications of green belt guidance

From Mr Sydney Chapman, MP for Chipping Barnet (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader on green belt policy (August 8) puts the recent Government draft circular in its proper and wider context. As you rightly judge, the circular has caused consternation to at least one MP representing part of an outer London borough containing a substantial wedge of green belt.

The draft circular is vague if not contradictory. If the final circular issued is not materially altered, will, I fear, cause totally different interpretations to be put upon it by the public, local planning authorities and potential developers.

For example, paragraph 11 of the draft circular states: "... the Government continue to attach great importance to the use of green belts to contain the sprawl of built-up areas and to safeguard the neighbouring countryside from encroachment..." This is a fair summary of the definition and purpose of green belts.

Yet two paragraphs later the assertion is made that "... if green belts are drawn excessively tightly around built-up areas it may not be possible to maintain the degree of permeability that (they) should have..."

Surely, if the policy is to be effective, their boundaries should be drawn tightly around built-up areas on the fringes of the metropolitan (and other) green belts?

As I interpret the draft circular, the danger is that it has encouraged owners and agents to apply for planning permission on any suitable site fit for development and make it more difficult for authorities to resist. It is relevant to add here that interested third parties cannot appeal against any planning permission granted.

It may be that there are certain sites in designated or interim green belts which are detached from the principal open space rings, surrounded by built-up areas and unbounded and unsightly. Such sites might be better developed for housing, but they must be relatively few and far between.

I suggest local councils should identify such sites and invite public comment on them before releasing them, if appropriate, for development. Otherwise, the final circular

should be confined to stressing the success of green belts over the past four decades and the continuing need for authorities to be vigilant in protecting them from encroaching suburbs.

This is particularly necessary at a time when thousands of acres of land in the metropolis and other conurbations lie unused, under-used or derelict; and especially when London's first orbital motorway will be completed in three years with the consequent pressure for development all around it intensified.

Yours faithfully,  
SYDNEY CHAPMAN,  
House of Commons.

From Mr R. W. G. Smith

Sir, One peg of the latest demand by the housebuilders for the release of green belt land for housing is that land of "little amenity value", for example run-down sites, should be freed for building.

Parts of London's green belt are undoubtedly of much less scenic value than others, but that does not mean that they should be released for housing. The green belt is there to prevent expansion of towns and the walling up of countryside by building, and the scenic quality of the land is irrelevant.

It suits the development interests to pretend that the less attractive land might as well be built upon, but that misrepresentation of the nature of the green belt ought not to go unchallenged. The tragedy is that the Secretary of State for the Environment and some newspapers look like falling for the trick.

People living near run-down green belt sites attach great importance to them if it is all that they have to prevent the spread of the Great Wen. To sacrifice green belt to mollify (temporarily) the vociferous and greedy building industry would be extremely short-sighted and a tragedy for future generations.

Unsuitable sites can be rendered attractive and useful without surrendering them to builders. Surely it is not beyond our ingenuity to do that, and to meet any genuine housing needs elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,  
R. W. G. SMITH, Chairman,  
The London Green Belt Council,  
111 Billy Lows Lane,  
Porters Bar, Hertfordshire.

### Dissident's sentence

From Miss Mary Kernick and others

Sir, We wish to draw attention to, and protest most strongly against, the sentence of 14 months imprisonment followed by three years' house arrest imposed on Ladislav Lis, the Czech dissident whose imminent trial was mentioned in your newspaper on July 20.

Dr Lis was until recently spokesman for the Charter 77 Group, a member of VONS (the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted) and a fearless campaigner for human rights in Czechoslovakia. We believe he is being persecuted purely and simply for his dissenting political views and continued association with Charter 77 - in fact one of the charges was "incitement against the socialist system".

He has been in and out of prison since 1977 and his medical condition, never good, is now parlous. He is reported to be coughing blood and suffering from a swelling on the left side of the chest, for which appropriate medication is denied. He and his family have been subjected to constant harassment and police surveillance, and his wife

is not receiving letters or allowed to visit him.

We believe that international publicity and pressure are an essential part of Amnesty's continuing campaign to secure the release of Dr Lis.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY KERNICK,  
FRANCO DUBON,  
LADISLAV LIS,  
CLIVE SOLEY,  
Camden Amnesties,  
37 Hillmarton Road, N7.

### Curtain up

From Mr Arnold M. Crook and Mr Anthony Peek

Sir, We at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, take great exception to Sir Roy Strong's article of July 30. His reference to "that most elegant but now sadly run-down theatre" is completely misrepresents how the theatre looks and the public sees it. It is he aware of the political and economic gulf which exists between the subsidised and unsubsidised sectors of theatre?

In April, 1980, the licence fee imposed on the Haymarket by the GLC rose from £75 to £1,350 (this applied to all theatres). Since that date the licence fee has increased annually to £1,866. The fee, being based on seating capacity, means that some theatres of larger capacity instead of paying £75 as hitherto, are now paying £4,368; however, subsidised companies as registered charities pay only a nominal fee of £30. Additionally, whereas the rates paid by theatres and others are in the five-figure category, those in the subsidised area are considerably less, as also are their rents.

The Haymarket is a class I listed building and, in company with all other occupiers of listed buildings, has as a result its cross to bear with its additional burdensome expenses.

### Parental consent

From Mr Peter Schofield

Sir, Your correspondent Mrs Carole Chapman (August 5) appears to be under a misapprehension.

Your 16 to 18 year-old, whose parents misguidedly wish to obstruct a "wish to enter a stable, loving sexual relationship through marriage", has access to the courts, who in appropriate cases can and will give consent in the place of the parents.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER J. SCHOFIELD,  
Faculty of Law,  
University of Leeds,  
Leeds,  
August 5.

### Alternative routes in quest for health

From Dr Richard D. Tonkin

Sir, Ruth West and Brian Inglis are right in the main substance of their arguments (August 8, 9, 10) for increased recognition of various different therapeutic techniques in the management of health and recovery from illness. But surely the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people lies in co-operation between conventional and what is more accurately termed complementary medicine.

To foster the false concept of orthodox scientific medicine as outdated and hazardous is highly dangerous. Scientific and complementary practices both have an important part to play in the health care of the public.

We agree that many of today's patients suffer from an imbalance of body function (disturbed homeostasis) which is closely related to personal and environmental factors. We also agree that many complementary therapies are eminently suitable for dealing with such disorders.

However, orthodox medicine still carries the responsibility for screening out a large number of organic conditions for which some direct action is more appropriate and without which serious complications and/or long term disability may result.

Finally, we must not lose sight of the fact that around half of all cases of cancer can now be successfully eliminated as a result of intensive research and the use of new technology and although the patient's own self healing capability is unquestionably of primary importance, it needs all the help it can get from these recent scientific discoveries.

Sincerely yours,  
RICHARD D. TONKIN, Chairman,  
Research Council for  
Complementary Medicine,  
37 Bedford Square, WC1.

Objectivity is the whole basis of science. Science is a discipline - ie, the method is subject to rules. It is conformity to rules or lack of conformity that determines whether a statement is scientific or not. The editorial claims that "there are many disciplines at work in the world of alternative medicine". What rules are there in the world of alternative medicine?

The most irrational part of your editorial is contained in its last sentence which reads: "However, even the Hippocratic Oath recognised that, in certain callings, spiritual quality is as basic as skill." The reference to the Hippocratic Oath puts the context of "certain callings" as medical, and presumably the words "as basic as" means equally important. The writer then might find a surgeon with great spiritual gifts but little in the way of surgical skill appropriate for him when it came to operative surgery.

On the other hand, perhaps the ending of your editorial is just a flourish - a piece of hyperbole not intended to be taken seriously - which raises the question whether the rest of the judgments expressed should be taken seriously?

Yours truly,  
R. G. WILLIAMS,  
The New Hall,  
Hedon,  
North Humberside,  
August 10.

From Dr J. P. Taverner

Sir, Your leading article today, together with the week's series on holistic medicine gives rise to the erroneous impression that many doctors, especially GPs, have been "psyched" by their peers into over-prescribing and treating all patients' ailments with medications.

The "a pill for every ill" ethic was a post-war product of the politicians' welfare state combined with pressure from the pharmaceutical industry. This political, commercial and social influence has had an insidious effect on our patients. They now expect and sometimes demand treatment for their illness today, and not tomorrow.

Many doctors believe and have always believed in the holistic theory as applied to health, yet it requires time and effort on the part of the patient to put this into practice. Many prefer to have quick palliation with a pill rather than a slower yet rewarding cure through their own inner resources.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN TAVERNER,  
1500 Warwick Road,  
Knowle,  
Salford for the deceased's medals.  
West Midlands,  
August 10.

### Labour leadership

From Mr Jeff Rooker, MP for Birmingham, Ferry Bar (Labour)

Sir, Alan Sapper ("More like a nightmare ticket" - feature, August 11) presumes too much. How does he know that the Labour Party annual conference will vote year in year out the same way on each and every policy issue - for that is the only basis that he can write as he does about a Labour leadership team "in line" and "in tune" with annual conference.

He glosses over in his last sentence the key point that the new leader will not be able to "carry out" any policies until he becomes Prime Minister. This is not an unimportant point.

He cites "a recent opinion poll" (unnamed) which gave a majority for increased taxation to be spent on improving social services as evidence that our policies were not understood. However, the 1979 British Election Study showed how fragile the support is on this point.

Seventy-one per cent were in favour of the statement that "government services such as health, education and welfare should be kept up even if it means that taxes cannot be reduced", whereas 71 per cent also agreed that "social services and benefits should be cut back". The divisive contest of 1981 and its aftermath made it impossible to begin the task of selling a policy which would be believed on this one issue he cites.

There is not a shred of evidence that either Roy Hattersley or Neil Kinnock wish to be surrounded by "yes men"; indeed the opposite is the case. Leading the Labour Party to victory in the next general election is a somewhat different task than running a trade union. It's about time trade union leaders woke up to this.

Yours,  
JEFF ROOKER,  
House of Commons, SW1,  
August 11.

### The treasure-seekers

From Major J. D. Sainsbury

Sir, What are the bounds of treasure seeking? This trust, running on a shoestring to preserve the near-200 year history of a county Territorial unit, is beset with a new menace, every bit as threatening as the metal detector.

He is the medal speculator who, spurred by the "investment value" of medals, reads the obituary columns of local newspapers for evidence of war or other Service and includes upon next of kin to make offers for the deceased's medals.

The tasteless intrusion has to our knowledge been compounded either by the statement that "the regimental museum would not be interested" in a certain group of medals or, worse, by the speculator purporting to be acting on behalf of the regimental museum.

Heritage does not only encompass "buried" archaeology and the full extent of its rape should be realised by anyone trying to protect it. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
J. D. SAINSBURY,  
Hertfordshire Yeomanry and  
Artillery Historical Trust,  
8 Mornington,  
Digswell,  
Welwyn,  
Hertfordshire,  
August 2.

### Without honour

From Mr R. J. Lane Fox

Sir, Mr M. B. Lacey (August 8) fears an earthquake in Winchester Cathedral because there were only five candidates from New College in Oxford's class list for Greats this year, none of them a Wykehamist, two of them women, while neither a Wykehamist nor a New College candidate was among the firsts.

As one of the New College candidates' tutors, I must reassure the residents in Winchester. Mr Lacey has miscounted. The six New College candidates are first-rate people, a more valuable category than first-class examiners. Two other candidates took degrees in classical subjects, one of whom is male, the other female. Both are first-rate and first-class.

Mr Lacey's expectations of Winchester College are not mine. His view of women is his own misfortune. Yours truly,  
R. J. LANE FOX,  
New College,  
Oxford.

### Relatively speaking

From Bishop E. L. Evans

Sir, No doubt our American friends would agree with Mr Bristow's letter (August 8).

Their usual opening gambit is: "Who is this, please?" to which I have always thought that the correct reply is: "I don't know; perhaps you will tell me."

Yours faithfully,  
E. L. EVANS,  
Banglow 1,  
Terry's Cross,  
Brighton Road,  
Henfield,  
West Sussex.

### Yugoslavia's economy

From Mr Kurt Weisskopf

Sir, Your leader, Yugoslavia takes its medicine (August 3) does the efforts of that country credit, but not fully so. The stabilisation programme prepared by the so-called Kraiger Commission was initiated early in 1982. Between that date, when this economic brains trust issued basic guidelines for long-term stabilisation, and July, 1983, when it published its long-term stabilisation programme, now approved by the Federal Assembly, it released 15 studies dealing with the principal aspects of Yugoslavia's economy.

If there is a common factor it has been the reiterated insistence on restraint as well as on the invariability of self-management despite its imperfections. Economically Yugoslavia remains a consensus society. If any evidence is needed it is in the fact that for the last three years its people have accepted

unprotestingly a decline in their standard of living ranging between five and six per cent annually. You might argue that there has been unrest in Kosovo, but that situation could be likened to Ulster - there is more than one analogy.

There may have been over-investment, but had it not been for the oil crisis Yugoslavia would have managed with little foreign aid or perhaps even with none. But as the OECD Economic Survey on Yugoslavia, published on July 7, puts it, although Yugoslavia's problems remain "formidable" its authorities "are showing a remarkable resolve to achieve the stabilisation objectives by imposing sacrifices in real incomes and consumption for the third successive year and reducing the level of investment..." But, once again, the sacrifices have not been decreed. They are a result of persuasion and consensus.

Please allow me to correct your data on the level of unemployment

in Yugoslavia. The OECD report states that "total unemployment reached some 860,000 last year, or roughly 9 per cent of the total labour force (including the agricultural labour force). Excluding some 230,000 people who are employed but desire to change jobs, the actual number of unemployed may be around 630,000 or between 6.5 and 7 per cent of the labour force." This is a far cry from the 12 per cent you claim.

The main point, however, is that the Yugoslavs are not "at last facing up to the growing crisis", as you put it somewhat melodramatically, but have pursued a consistent policy of economic recovery aiming to enlist all along the support of the population after a wide-ranging and open debate.

Yours faithfully,  
KURT WEISSKOPF,  
79 Burt Road,  
Brighton,  
August 3.







سكنا من الأصل

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 722.1 FT All Shares 456.53 Bargains 20,028 Datastream USM Leaders Index 100.82 New York Dow Jones Average 1182.83 Tokyo Stock Exchange Index 8,520.72 Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,037.46 Amsterdam 150.1 Sydney AO Index 661.7 Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 844.40 Brussels General Index 130.01 Paris CAC Index 131.2 Zurich SCA General 294.0 (Friday's close)

CURRENCIES

LONDON Sterling \$1.4835 DM 4.0375 FF 12.1400 Yen 366.25 Dollar Index 130.4 DM 2.7220 NEW YORK Sterling \$1.4902 INTERNATIONAL ECU 20.563547 SDU 20.703928 (Friday's close)

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interim: Albright and Wilson, ASEA AB, Ayrshire Metal Products, British Drilling International, British Bank of the Americas, British Eastern Investment, Thomas Nationwide Transport (third quarter), Transport Development. Finalists: Howard Shuttering, Impala Plastics, Vibropan. TOMORROW - Interim: Adams and Gibson, Anglo-International Investment, Metal Bulletin, Royal Insurance, Unilever (second quarter). Finalists: Cowan, De Groot, Group Investors, Heilmann Holdings, Metal Trade Suppliers, Restmor Group. WEDNESDAY - Interim: T. Clarke, Gaskell Broadloom, Gianfield Lawrence, Horizon Travel, Phoenix. Finalists: M.L. Holdings, Scottish, English and European Textiles, Victor Engineering. THURSDAY - Interim: Anglo American Industrial Corp., Corah, Hill & Smith, Johnson Group Cleaners, Philips Lamps (second quarter), Squirrel Horn, Stenhouse Holdings, Westminster Property (amended). Finalists: Copelin, EID-Parry (India) (18-month figures), A & J Geffer, McKay Securities Group, Louis Newmark. FRIDAY - Interim: Charles Baynes, Benford Concrete Machinery, GT Asia (Sterling) Fund (quarterly). Finalists: W.G. Allen & Sons (Tipton), Mining Supplies, Pfitz, Press Tolls, Waring & Gillow, and Wholesale Fittings.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Today - Group Lotus Car Companies, Lotus Cars, Hethel, Norwich (12.15), Steinberg Group, Steinberg House, Killy Farm, Milton Keynes (11.00). Tomorrow - Evans of Leeds, Queens Hotel, City Square, Leeds (noon); Intasun, Leisure Group, Howard Hotel, Temple Place, WC2 (11.30). Wednesday - Bulgin Group of Companies, Bypass Road, Barking, Essex; Charles Hill, Park Hall Hotel, Goldhorn Park, Woburnhampton (noon); Mountview Estates, Regent Palace Hotel, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (noon); Unilock Holdings, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorpace Place, EC2 (3.00). Thursday - A. Cohen & Co., 8 Waterloo Place, St James's, SW1 (noon); Greene, King & Sons, The Barn, Houghton Park, Houghton, N. Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (noon); Philips Patents (Holdings), Grand Hotel, Aytoun Street, Manchester (noon); Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, King James Theatre Hotel, St James Centre, Edinburgh (noon). Friday - Ariel Industries, Allan House, Newark Street, Leicester (4.00); Chamberlain Phipps, The Manor House, Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire (2.30); May & Hassell, Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol (noon).

● Rate rise forecast: Interest rates will have to rise in order to reduce the growth in money supply, according to a forecast published today by the Charterhouse Investment and Banking Group. But the higher rates will keep the pound overvalued, restrict industrial recovery and mean a continued rise in unemployment, it adds. ● Beazer contracts: C. H. Beazer (Holdings) has secured two contracts for its security and defence subsidiary, one worth £80,000 to supply bullet-proof doors and fittings for a Hongkong bank and the other to equip an Italian warship with a glass fibre bow dome. ● Hongkong growth: Hongkong's gross domestic product growth is likely to exceed the government's February estimate of 4 per cent in calendar 1983, according to the Colony's Financial Secretary, Mr John Brembridge.

Savings bank chief overcomes opposition in regions TSB unveils merger plan paving way for £400m public flotation

By Our Financial Staff TSB, a TSB for Northern Ireland; a Channel Islands bank; United Dominions Trust, the hire-purchase division; and an insurance company. This week's merger takes place under existing legislation, but it is seen as a significant breakthrough by the TSB chairman, Sir John Road, who was brought in to mastermind the sale of the bank. The planned flotation aroused considerable opposition among the more traditional banks in the movement, many of which felt that they should stick to their traditional role. The Road plan, in contrast, envisages the creation of a



Read: Significant breakthrough towards masterminding sale nationwide unit which will rival Barclays, Midland, National Westminster and Lloyds in the high streets and also possibly in the international banking field.

Commonwealth call for trade reforms

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent Commonwealth finance ministers will discuss a new report calling for important reforms of the international financial and trading system at their annual meeting in Trinidad next month. The report is the work of a nine-member task force set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat after last year's meeting of Commonwealth finance ministers in London. At the meeting, Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand premier, pushed the idea of an international monetary conference along the lines of the Bretton Woods meeting of 1944. His proposals have since received backing from others, including President Francois Mitterrand of France. The new report is likely to set the tone of debate on reforms to the system at the International Monetary Fund World Bank conference which immediately follows the finance ministers' meeting. The new plan calls for greater economic cooperation and

Tilling Man tipped as Rank chief

Sir Patrick Meany, the former chairman of Thomas Tilling which was taken over this year by BTR, is tipped as the next chairman of Rank Organisation. Last month, Mr Michael Gilford, finance director of Cadbury Schweppes, was appointed Rank's chief executive and it was known that the group was looking for a new chairman. Sir Patrick who is 58, has spearheaded Rank's search for a new chief executive with his fellow Rank non-executive directors. Yesterday, Mr Russell Evans, Rank's chairman, said that he had no comment to make as he had been on holiday. "I understand that Sir Patrick Meany is also away at the moment", he added. Sir Patrick's experience of running a conglomerate would fit in well at Rank with its diverse interests. He is also on the boards of Cable and Wireless, ICI, and Midland Bank.

Bad debts threat 'ignored'

By Our Financial Staff Banks specializing in Latin America remain by far the most profitable of the consortium banks, according to a survey by IBCA Banking Analysis. However, IBCA questions whether these banks have made sufficient provision for bad debts. It accuses the accountancy profession of having faced this tricky problem by "resolutely ignoring it". European Brazilian Bank and Libra Bank emerge as the most profitable of the 44 consortia compared, with pretax return on assets of 3.2 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively last year. The return compares with an average of 0.98 per cent for a sample of 26 similar wholesale banks specializing in Eurocurrency lending. Both European Brazilian and Libra reported large profit rises last year. Two other consortia specializing in Latin America did less well but still compare favourably.

Hull contract crucial to System X future

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent The designers of the British electronic digital exchange, System X, are fighting to secure a crucial contract worth about £20m over 10 years in an attempt to prove to the telecommunications world that the technology is commercially viable. They will face stiff competition for the contract, which will be awarded within the next two months by Hull City Council, the only operator of a public telephone system in Britain apart from British Telecom. The contract is a prestigious one and vital to System X, because the exchange has yet to demonstrate that it can compete effectively in the open market against international competition. More than £150m has been spent on System X's development. Some estimates put the figure at £300m. But although its designers claim a technical superiority for it, the exchange has been embarrassingly slow in establishing a foothold in overseas markets. Recent attempts by designers

'Wings' bond warrant launched

By Michael Prest "Wings" - warrants in negotiable government securities - took off in the Eurobond market last week. These are another ingenious attempt to separate investors from their money by offering warrants convertible into United States Treasury bonds. The warrants are issued by investment banks and securities houses and are negotiable instruments in bearer form, thus preserving the Eurobond market's traditional anonymity. After a year the warrants lapse and are worthless, but at any stage in their brief life they are exercisable into specified US Treasury bonds. No coupon is attached to the warrants. If the price of the related bond rises, the price of the warrant should go up as well and, in theory, the happy investor makes a profit. Since the warrants are issued at a fraction of the price of the associated security, and without the time and expense of buying US Treasury bonds, they appear to offer a highly attractive and geared way into the Treasury bond market. But there are reservations. The first is that the investor is taking a view on bond prices, which today effectively means on how the market reads the intentions of the Federal Reserve and the course of interest rates. Secondly, there is the little matter of the price at which the warrants are exercisable into the bonds. Salomon Brothers, one of the most prestigious names in the market, issued 500,000 warrants last week, half of which are exercisable into US Treasury 10 1/2 per cent 2012 (known in the market as the "old long bond"). The price of the warrant is \$32.50 for each \$1,000 nominal, or 3.25 per cent. That sounds enticing. But Salomon has given notice that the exercise price will be fixed at five points over the price of the bonds tomorrow. If that price is the same as the \$7 on Friday, for the sake of argument, for the old long bond, the premium works out at 9.5 per cent. To show a profit, the investor must assume that yields will fall from more than 12 per cent to less than 11 per cent. Plenty of people in the Eurobond market have doubts about whether prices will rise by that much. They point out, moreover, that making a market in the warrants could be difficult, partly because of uncertainty about their value after several months. But in fairly dull market which has been overshadowed for most of the year by American interest rates, others confess to being more sanguine.

Car component firms in danger, survey says Sector's horrific decline

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent The performance of Britain's motor-vehicle component industry has been "horrific" and has mirrored, if not led, the country's industrial decline, according to a hard-hitting report on the sector published today. The Inter-Company Comparisons survey shows that the industry, usually regarded as the one bright spot in the depressed motor industry, "actually lost money" on over £2,000m of sales in 1981-82. The report, published in the midst of the controversial bid for AE by GKN, covers the performance of 100 companies over the three years up to April last year and concludes that almost half made losses in the latest year. "In fact, the losses run up by some companies in the past two years must raise questions as to their survival." The industry has cut its labour force in recent years by as much as 40 per cent and has instituted widespread factory closures. The ICC report shows that 42 companies shed 30,000 jobs in the three years, a drop of 18 per cent to a total labour force of 143,800. Much of the industry's problems stem from the huge increase in imported vehicles, a factor which ICC says has been beyond the control of the parts makers. It adds: "It is far too easy to say that a reduction of capacity earlier, or diversification into other markets and products, should have taken place sooner, but the truth of the matter is that many companies did this and yet they still made losses." "The industry has reduced in size through cutting out spare capacity and labour, both direct and indirect, but if the demand is not forthcoming then many companies may not be able to survive for very much longer." Of the industry's top nine members - those with sales of more than £100m - five failed to show any growth in sales during the three years while only two, AE and Smiths Industries, achieved respectable rises of 10 per cent and 14 per cent respectively. Four companies made losses in the latest of the three years - Lucas, Chloride, Automotive Products and Quinton Hazell. Only one, Smiths, made "what could be considered reasonable margins." ICC says that Smiths has kept profits hovering around the £25m-£26m mark in recent years "through a combination of good management and diversifying into other industries." Meanwhile, another motor industry report published today describes Europe as a "prime example" of an area where resistance to Japanese car imports is "disorganised and full of holes." The report, from Automotive Industry Data, says the fact that members of the European Community have different industrial policies was instrumental in damaging the vehicle industry. Most European countries imposed restrictions on the Japanese but the Japanese responded by expanding their European share through fringes markets such as Scandinavia and the Low Countries. "The net result is that European vehicle manufacturers, blind to the dangers, are losing valuable market share in what are to them traditional export markets." Motor Component & Accessory Manufacturers, ICC, Business Radio, 22-42 Baines Street, London, EC1Y 8QE, £121. Japanese Motor Vehicle Exports Strategies and Intentions, Automotive Industry Data, 34 St John Street, Lichfield, Staffs WS13 6PB, £25.

individual banks - they are thought to be owned ultimately by the depositors - the £400m raised by the float may well be retained by the bank and used to finance new ventures. There is concern, however, that a capital windfall of this nature may lead the TSB into areas where it has no experience. The capital will also help the TSB finance expensive developments in banking, such as the computerized point-of-sale system where a terminal in a department store deducts the amount of a purchase directly from the customer's bank account. And it will allow it to finance the further rationalization of its branch banking network.

Group Lotus row averted

By Rosemary Unsworth Group Lotus shareholders will vote today on the £6.7m rescue of their sports car company by British Car Auction Group and Toyota, the Japanese car group. But threats of a boardroom row taking place at the meeting between Mr Fred Bushell, Lotus chairman, and Mr David Wickins, BCA's chairman, over the calculation of the group's profits, announced last Friday, have receded. Mr Bushell said yesterday that he was discussing a three-year contract with Group Lotus. It emerged over the weekend that Mr Wickins and a co-director, Mr Alan Curtis, had not seen the group's interim results showing a £109,000 profit compared with a £289,000 loss for the same period last year before they were issued to the press and Mr Wickins was worried about taking responsibility for the figures. The Times report suggested Pilkington might be the predator but the question nevertheless arises whether in these circumstances UBM directors should have gone ahead with the share option scheme. This is not to suggest that the UBM directors

City Editor's Comment UBM board has option on honour

The announcement that directors of UBM, the builders' merchant, ratified a share option scheme at a board meeting five days before a much-rumoured bid for the group emerged, has raised a number of eyebrows. These directors are now sitting on a paper profit of £389,000. The share option scheme was drawn up in May, presented to shareholders in June, then approved at the annual meeting on July 7. In line with the normal procedures, the allocations of options on 961,000 shares were decided at the next board meeting after the annual meeting on July 29 and the option price was set in line with the then market price of 81p. The four directors involved accepted the option offer in the next few days and the scheme was ratified on August 5. It was five days later that Norcros unveiled its 109p-a-share takeover bid and stock market speculation pushed UBM shares sharply higher on hopes of a counter-bid. They now stand at 121.5p. However, the unfortunate aspect to this affair is that the stock market already appeared to have a good idea a bid was on the way. Speculation in the market On August 4, for instance, the day before the UBM board allocated the options, The Times reported: "Talk of a bid of 110p a share sent shares of builders' merchant UBM group racing away 6p to equal the year's high of 99p yesterday." The previous day UBM shares had risen 5p. The Times report suggested Pilkington might be the predator but the question nevertheless arises whether in these circumstances UBM directors should have gone ahead with the share option scheme. This is not to suggest that the UBM directors had foreknowledge of a bid or indeed knew anything that other shareholders did not. Mr Roger Pinnington, UBM chief executive, denies any knowledge of the Norcros bid until the day it appeared and Norcros has confirmed this. Of the speculation in the market, Mr Pinnington points out that there have been takeover rumours before. Attempts to discover whether something was afoot this time yielded no evidence of unusual share buying. But the point at issue is a rather different one. It is that share option schemes are meant to be offered as an incentive to management and the purpose of this one was to promote the "future prosperity" of the company by enabling executives involved to identify their interests with those of the shareholders. Should the Norcros bid succeed, it would be very hard to see how this had been achieved. Given the unfortunate timing of events, it would look more as though directors were receiving compensation of a sort and this was not the reason why shareholders approved the scheme in the first place, nor was that why the scheme was proposed. Without a bid the options are not exercisable for three years and the UBM directors would prefer it stayed that way. They have come out firmly against the Norcros bid and without a bid the controversy would go away. In the circumstances, however, the UBM directors would be best advised to waive their rights to the options until the bid battle is over. At the least shareholders should be given another chance to vote on the scheme given the changed circumstances.

STC announce a dramatic exchange of ideas. At STC Business Systems, telephone and switchboard technology has been moving apace. So has the legislation governing telecommunications, which now allows you to exchange ideas with independent suppliers. The OCS 300 is a spectacular new option offered by STC Business Systems, part of one of Europe's largest telecommunications companies. It's a compact, modular system which you can add to as your company grows. It has the capacity for 50 up to 300 telephones and offers all the features an expanding business is likely to need in the future. Write or phone David Evans on 01-3007788 at STC Business Systems for a full exchange of ideas. He could dramatically alter your thinking. STC I would like an exchange of ideas on the telephone. Please send me full details of the OCS 300 system. Name: Position held: Company: Address: Send to David Evans, STC Business Systems, Maidstone Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5HT. STC Business Systems. THE INTELLIGENT CHOICE.







مكتبة الأمل

This document includes particulars given in compliance with the Regulations of the Council of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to Bespak plc ("the Company" or "Bespak"). The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has granted the application for the Ordinary shares of the Company to be admitted to the Official List.

# Bespak plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1929 - No. 406711)

## Introduction by Hambros Bank Limited

Authorised		Share Capital		Issued and fully paid	
£	No. of shares	£	No. of shares	£	No. of shares
1,500,000	15,000,000	Ordinary shares of 10p each	1,070,050	10,700,500	

### Indebtedness

At the close of business on 29th July, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") had outstanding secured term loans of £1,291,670 and hire purchase and lease commitments of £303,881. Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-group liabilities, no company in the Group had at the close of business on that date any loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued or any outstanding mortgages, charges, debentures or other borrowings, or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, including bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade bills) or acceptance credits, hire purchase commitments or any guarantees or other material contingent liabilities.

<b>Directors</b>	Roy Edward Dexter M.C. (Chairman) Andrew Anthony Schumann (Managing Director) Graham Ernest Henry Begley F.C.C.A. Patrick Joseph Dunne M.Inst.M. Leslie James Kings Laurie Albert Saunders C. Eng., M.I. Mech.E., M.I. Prod.E. Michael Alec Schumann C. Eng., M.I.C.E. William Edward Warren C. Eng., M.I. Mech.E. Bergen Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2JJ.	<b>Registered office</b>	Chile House, 20 Ropemaker Street, London EC2Y 9BA.	<b>Financial advisers</b>	Hambros Bank Limited, 41 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2AA.
<b>Secretary</b>	David Terence Kerbey, Bespak plc, Bergen Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2JJ.	<b>Joint auditors and reporting accountants</b>	Ernst & Whinney, Chartered Accountants, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.	<b>Registrars and transfer office</b>	Barclays Bank PLC, Radbrooke Hall, Knuttsford, Cheshire WA16 9EU.
		<b>Principal bankers</b>	Barclays Bank PLC, 78 Turners Hill, Cheshunt, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire EN8 9BW.	<b>Solicitors</b>	Norton, Rose, Bottenell & Roche, Kempson House, Carnomile Street, London EC3A 7AN.
				<b>Stockbrokers</b>	de Zoete & Bevan, 25 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7EE and The Stock Exchange.

### Historical background

The Company was founded by Mr. Alec Schumann, the father of two of the present Directors, and until very recently a majority of the share capital has always remained in the ownership of the Schumann family, 65 per cent. of the Company's issued share capital is presently owned by Directors other than the Schumanns and approximately 4.7 per cent. by a company associated with Hambros Bank Limited ("Hambros"), which subscribed for shares in 1971 following its participation in 1967 in the financing of an early stage of Bespak's expansion. In 1958, operating under licence, the Group began the assembly and sale in the United Kingdom and certain other territories of the Flidon Manufacturing Company's ("Flidon") range of aerosol valves, consisting of continuous spray valves for use in aerosols containing perfumes and colognes and metering valves delivering a measured spray for each depression of the actuator. While valves of the latter type were also used in perfume and cologne aerosols, their more important application proved to be in the pharmaceutical field. In the early 1960's Bespak began to replace components purchased from Flidon with United Kingdom manufactured components for reasons of cost and speed of delivery. Bespak also began improving upon the designs covered by the licence, producing innovations based on those designs and originating specialised valves of their own design, becoming one of the world's major manufacturers of specialist aerosol valves. The licence and all associated agreements with Flidon were terminated in 1975.

The Company grew substantially during the late 1960's and early 1970's due in particular to the increase in sales of two products incorporating Bespak's valves. The first was the aerosol cologne spray pioneered in the United Kingdom by one of Bespak's customers, Vandy Manufacturing Limited, and the second was a pharmaceutical product for the relief of asthma, the bronchodilator Ventolin (a registered trade mark of the Glaxo group ("Glaxo")). Ventolin was first marketed in an aerosol form with a valve manufactured by Bespak in 1969 by Allen & Hanbury Limited, a subsidiary of Glaxo Holdings PLC. By 1975 sales to Glaxo of the special metering valve for use with this product were equalling sales of perfume and cologne valves and since then sales of this valve have exceeded those of any other Bespak product despite the fact that the Company has remained the market leader in the United Kingdom for the supply of valves for aerosol sprays, perfumes and colognes.

In November, 1982 2,750,000 shares were placed by Hambros and permission was granted for dealings to take place in the Company's listed shares in the United Securities Market.

### The business

Bespak's principal business consists of the manufacture and sale of several different ranges of specialised aerosol valves. Of these, pharmaceutical metering valves, which are manufactured both in a standard range and in a special version for Glaxo, accounted for approximately 70 per cent. of Bespak's sales in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983, most of which were to Glaxo. This range of valves is designed to deliver an accurately measured and repeatable dose in a spray fine enough to reach the lungs and is principally used in inhalation therapy. Bespak is one of only two significant competitors in this market.

Another important product line is a range of valves for use with perfumes and colognes. Although sales of these valves accounted for just under 15 per cent. of Bespak's total sales in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983, they represent well over half the United Kingdom market for such products. Bespak supplies these valves to most of the major cosmetic houses in the United Kingdom including L'Oréal, Yvonne, 'L'Oréal and Fabergé.

In addition to its two main product lines Bespak manufactures and sells several other types of valves. It supplies the majority of United Kingdom manufacturers of aerosol fire extinguishers with a unique range of very high emission rate valves, together with handles, which for their part are capable of meeting the relevant requirements of the new British Standard for aerosol fire extinguishers. Although this product line only accounted for around 5 per cent. of sales in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983, the Company is increasing production capacity in anticipation of substantial sales growth in the United States.

Bespak also manufactures special valves for specific applications, including valves for butane lighter refills (for customers such as Ronson and Dunhill) and lock cleaners, valves for use with powders, thick creams, mastic and polyurethane foams and a medical catheter valve, all of which together accounted for the remainder of sales in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983.

The geographical analysis of turnover is as follows:-

	Financial year ended	
	30th April 1982	29th April 1983
United Kingdom	5,008	6,921
U.S.A.	372	944
Europe	337	340
Rest of the world	351	491
	5,868	8,696

Although approximately 90 per cent. of sales in the Company's financial year ended 29th April, 1983 were to United Kingdom customers, the Directors are aware that a substantial proportion of valves sold in the United Kingdom are incorporated in products which are ultimately exported.

### The Group

The Group comprises Bespak, which is the holding company and principal manufacturing company, Bertaps Engineering Co. Limited ("Bertaps"), which operates the plastic injection moulding department, and B.E.S. Technology Limited ("Bestech"), which is responsible for the design and development of much of the specialised machinery used by Bespak and Bertaps.

Bespak produces over 100 million finished products per annum, using increasingly automated methods to assemble bought-in springs, gaskets and metal pressings with components injection-moulded by Bertaps in engineering plastics. Thirty-five injection-moulding machines, run on a computer basis, currently produce over 300 million of these small high precision moulded components in a year under strict quality control. Mould tools are made to extremely fine tolerances, usually in the Company's own toolroom. The Company is also a leader in its field in the use of computer-aided techniques. Administration and production controls are based on an extensively developed IBM manufacturing resource planning (MRP) system, backed up by Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machine tools, principally in order to accelerate detail design of the product, tool design and the tool manufacturing processes, thus enabling the Company to respond more quickly to customers' requirements. The Directors believe that one of Bespak's strengths is its highly developed engineering expertise which has resulted in the Company acquiring a reputation for high quality and reliability.

Although the Company relies upon a small number of suppliers for certain bought-in components and materials a policy of seeking additional sources for critical components is actively pursued. However, the testing of alternative materials or components for use in pharmaceutical applications is invariably protracted. In order to cement its trading relationship with a major supplier the Company has recently acquired an approximate 27 per cent. shareholding in R. C. Bull Rubber Co. Limited.

The Company's marketing approach is based on a five year plan designed to achieve profit growth and reduce dependence on any one customer. Bespak's position as a supplier to specialist market segments means that close personal contact can be maintained with customers by a small professional sales staff backed up by a technical support service. These sales activities are supported by the United Kingdom and a fourth by visiting overseas customers, particularly in Europe. Many overseas territories used to be covered by agency agreements but the Company has recently taken over direct responsibility for a number of these, including the French market on which it will be particularly concentrating. Selling agencies still exist in parts of Eastern Europe and the Far East and in Canada, South America, Japan and South Africa. The Company has a representative in the United States as part of its plan for major expansion there. It is Bespak's policy to maintain close contacts with customers and potential customers so that its knowledge of their requirements is as complete and up to date as possible, thus enabling Bespak continually to develop its product ranges so as to meet these requirements.

### The Ventolin valve

Bespak's range of pharmaceutical valves includes a special form of metering valve for use with Ventolin and in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983 sales of these valves to Glaxo accounted for approximately 60 per cent. of Bespak's sales. While Glaxo purchases aerosol valves from other manufacturers for use with other products, Bespak is Glaxo's sole supplier of valves for Ventolin.

Following the approval of Ventolin by the United States Food and Drug Administration (as a result of such approval being the incorporation in the product of the Bespak valve), Glaxo commenced selling Ventolin in the United States in 1981. By agreement with Glaxo, Schering-Plough Corporation ("Schering") now manufactures and sells a similar product there, under the name Proventil. Bespak has agreed with Glaxo not to sell the Ventolin valve other than to Glaxo but with Glaxo's consent is now supplying Schering with this valve for use with Proventil valve other than to Glaxo but with Glaxo's consent. The extension of the market for the Ventolin valve should result in a substantial increase in Bespak's sales.

There is no agreement between Glaxo or Schering and Bespak requiring either Glaxo or Schering to purchase valves from Bespak but the Directors consider it most unlikely that any other suitable valve could be made available to Glaxo or Schering by another manufacturer for at least several years. Although the patents covering the design of the special valve used with Ventolin have expired, there are certain special features and elements of technical expertise involved in the valve's manufacture which, the Directors consider, would make it an extremely difficult product to copy. In addition, the special valve is the only one which has been officially approved both in the United Kingdom and in the United States, as well as widely throughout the rest of the world, for dispensing Ventolin and any alternative valve produced would be required to undergo a long period of testing and approval by manufacturers and regulatory authorities before it could be substituted for the Bespak valve.

### Future developments

As mentioned above, the potential market for Ventolin and Proventil in the United States is very large and even if those products obtain only a small share of the market, Bespak's sales of valves to Glaxo and Schering should increase substantially. The Directors also foresee growing United Kingdom and export sales to other pharmaceutical companies of Bespak's range of metering valves suitable for inhalation therapy products.

Another United States market which the Directors believe has substantial potential is that for aerosol fire extinguishers incorporating Bespak valves and handles. Approvals for these fire extinguishers are being sought from appropriate testing bodies and it is anticipated that the granting of these would result in a substantial increase in sales.

In furtherance of its expansion into the United States the Company has recently incorporated Bespak, Inc. as a wholly owned subsidiary and this company has obtained an option to purchase a site of approximately 26 acres in North Carolina on which it plans to construct a purpose built factory to house the Group's American operation so that it can more easily and efficiently service that market.

The Company is experiencing continuing growth in sales of perfume valves and related devices in Europe and is at an advanced stage in the development of lower cost metering valve systems for less demanding non-aerosol applications which continue seeking areas into which it can diversify by making use of its existing precision moulding technology and marketing and engineering expertise. The Company's substantial research and development effort will continue to be used to explore possibilities for increasing sales by meeting requests from customers for special products or for variations on existing products but these are only manufactured in cases where the return to the Company is expected to be adequate.

### Premises

The Company owns the freehold of a site of approximately 7.7 acres on the North Lynn Industrial Estate, King's Lynn, Norfolk on which it has three buildings. The Company moved into two factory buildings on the site in 1975, one of which was a 20,000 square foot rented building on a site of approximately 3.3 acres and the other of which was a 25,000 square foot building constructed for the Company on an adjoining site of approximately 4.4 acres, the freehold of which had previously been bought by Bespak. The freehold of the rented property was acquired in 1979 and in 1980 the Company moved into an additional building of 45,000 square feet erected for it to design incorporating various innovations which have produced a more pleasant and efficient working environment leading to a greater integration of production and administrative functions. This latest building houses assembly operations, quality control, maintenance, main stores and dispatch and most of the management and office staff. The 25,000 square foot building houses the injection-moulding and tool making departments and the 20,000 square foot building accommodates the research and development department.

The Directors consider that this site is capable of carrying at least a further 40,000 square feet of buildings in a satisfactory landscaped surroundings and have already put in hand site clearance preparatory to the erection of an extension to the factory.

### Management and staff

**Directors**  
Mr. R. E. Dexter, aged 63, is the non-executive Chairman of the Company and an Industrial Adviser to Hambros, having previously been Chief Executive of the Santitas Group. He joined Bespak as a Director in 1968, when Hambros first became involved in the Company, and was appointed Chairman in 1978.  
Mr. A. A. Schumann, aged 44, joined the Company as Production Manager in 1969 after managerial experience with Ford Limited and I.T.T. Data Services. He was appointed to the Board in 1970 and has been Managing Director since 1974.  
Mr. G. E. H. Begley, aged 44, joined the Company in 1968 as the Company's accountant. He was appointed Finance Director in 1974 and is responsible for all aspects of the Group's financial affairs and administration.  
Mr. P. J. Dunne, aged 38, joined the Company in 1974 as a sales executive and was subsequently promoted to sales manager before being appointed Marketing Director in 1981.  
Mr. L. J. Kings, aged 54, joined the Company in 1964 as the works foreman and was subsequently promoted to assembly manager, production manager and manufacturing manager before being appointed Manufacturing Director in 1981.  
Mr. L. A. Saunders, aged 49, joined the Company in 1980 as Engineering Director following senior management experience with several companies including I.T.T. Cannon Electric and a subsidiary of Lockheed Corporation.  
Mr. M. A. Schumann, aged 41, joined the Company in 1970 following managerial experience with Balfour Beatty Limited and Cementation Limited. He was appointed a Director in 1979 and is responsible for development of the Company's land and buildings and for long term planning.  
Mr. W. E. Warren, aged 59, was Managing Director of the Company between 1963 and 1974 and is now a non-executive Director and part-time consultant to the Company.

**Staff**  
The Company employs approximately 280 people, all of whom are based in King's Lynn. Of these approximately 140 are employed in production (including Bertaps), 80 in engineering (including Bestech), 30 in finance and administration, 20 in research and development and 10 in sales and marketing.

The Board is supported by a strong management team and there is a well developed structure for consultation and decision making. All relations between management and employees are conducted through the Bespak Employees' Council and labour relations are excellent.

There are three fully funded retirement benefit schemes in operation for the weekly and monthly paid employees, all of which are non-contributory.

### Dividends

It is the Company's intention to pay dividends twice yearly split as to approximately 40 per cent. in February as an interim dividend and as to the remaining 60 per cent. in October as a final dividend.

### Appendix I - Accountants' Report

The following is a copy of the joint report of Ernst & Whinney and Hogg Bullimore & Co., Chartered Accountants, to the Directors of the Company:-

Ernst & Whinney,  
Becket House,  
1 Lambeth Palace Road,  
London SE1 7EU.

Hogg Bullimore & Co.,  
Chartered Accountants,  
20 Ropemaker Street,  
London EC2Y 9BA.

15th August, 1983.

**The Directors:**  
Bespak plc  
and  
The Directors:  
Hambros Bank Limited

**Gentlemen:**

**Introduction**  
We have reviewed the audited accounts of Bespak plc ("Bespak") and of its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as "the Group") for the five financial years ended 29th April, 1983. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and have been audited by Hogg Bullimore & Co., Chartered Accountants for the four financial years ended

30th April, 1982 and jointly by Ernst & Whinney and Hogg Bullimore & Co. for the financial year ended 29th April, 1983. The financial information set out below under the heading "Historical cost accounts" is derived from the audited accounts of the Group, after making such adjustments as we consider appropriate. In our opinion, this information gives, on the basis of the historical cost convention, a true and fair view of the profits and source and application of funds of the Group for the five financial years ended 29th April, 1983 and of the state of affairs of Bespak and of the Group at 29th April, 1983.

We have also examined the abridged supplementary current cost accounts of the Group for the two financial years ended 29th April, 1983 which have been prepared under the current cost convention in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice number 16 ("SSAP 16"). The summarized financial information set out below under the heading "Current cost accounts" has been derived from the abridged supplementary current cost accounts. In our opinion these statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the policies and methods set out in the notes to give the information required by SSAP 16.

No audited accounts have been prepared for the Group for any period subsequent to 29th April, 1983.

#### Historical cost accounts

**1. Accounting policies**  
The historical cost accounts have been drawn up under the following policies, which have been consistently applied in arriving at the financial information set out in the report:-

- (a) Accounting convention  
The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.
- (b) Basis of consolidation  
The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of Bespak and its two wholly owned subsidiaries, Bertaps Engineering Co. Limited ("Bertaps") and B.E.S. Technology Limited ("Bestech"). Bespak acquired a holding of 50 per cent. in Winstlight Engineering Limited ("Winstlight") in February, 1982. The Directors consider the investment to be in the nature of a trade investment and the results of Winstlight have been excluded on the grounds of immateriality.
- (c) Turnover  
Turnover comprises the invoice value of goods and services, excluding VAT and intra-group transactions.
- (d) Depreciation  
The cost of fixed assets, excluding motor vehicles, is written off in equal monthly instalments over their expected useful lives as follows:-  
Freehold buildings — 50 years  
Freehold building services — 10 to 20 years  
Tooling — 3 years  
Plant and equipment — 3 to 7 years  
Licences and patents — 5 years  
Motor vehicles are revalued annually at their trade-in value.

**(e) Plant under construction**  
The costs and attributable overheads of self-manufactured assets are capitalized as they are incurred. When the asset is completed the total cost of the asset is transferred to the appropriate asset category after writing off any costs in excess of the Directors' valuation of the asset.

**(f) Hire purchase contracts and leasing agreements**  
Assets acquired under hire purchase contracts and financial leases are capitalized and depreciation is applied on the useful life of the asset. Finance charges are recognized on an accrual basis.

**(g) Stocks and work in progress**  
Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises the direct cost of production and the attributable portion of all overheads appropriate to location and condition and is calculated using the first in first out method.

**(h) Research and development**  
Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

**(i) Deferred taxation**  
Provision is made for taxation, using the liability method, on short-term timing differences and all other material timing differences which are not expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

**(j) Contributions to pension funds**  
The Group makes contributions to various pensions and life assurance plans. The contributions are made to a funded scheme, the assets of which are held by trustees and kept separate from those of the Group. Contributions are based on the most recent valuation of the fund which is prepared annually.

**(k) Foreign currencies**  
Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling on that date. Translation differences, and differences arising on the trading activities of the Group, have been dealt with in the profit and loss account.

**(l) Investment grants**  
Investment grants on capital expenditure are treated as reducing the cost of the acquisition of the relevant asset by the amount of the grant.

**2. Profit and loss accounts**  
The profit and loss accounts of the Group for each of the five financial years ended 29th April, 1983 were as follows:-

	Financial year ended					
	27th April 1979	2nd May 1980	1st May 1981	30th April 1982	29th April 1983	1983
Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Turnover	4,146	4,569	4,416	5,855	6,996	8,727
Operating expenses	(3,420)	(3,330)	(3,981)	(4,697)	(5,727)	(6,727)
Net operating income	(6)	239	435	1,158	1,969	2,000
Net interest receivable	(4)	(31)	(447)	(323)	(198)	(200)
Profit before taxation	677	317	88	848	1,022	1,000
Taxation	(6)	(19)	(20)	(13)	(25)	(50)
Profit after taxation and before extraordinary charges	671	298	68	835	1,007	950
Extraordinary charges	(6)	(2)	(29)	(8)	(8)	(8)
Profit available for distribution	665	296	39	827	1,007	950
Dividends	(1)	(43)	(29)	(59)	(210)	(210)
Retained profit	(4)	253	68	768	1,457	1,457
Earnings per share	(4)	6.3p	3.3p	0.7p	7.8p	16.7p

**Notes on the profit and loss accounts**

(a) Operating expenses  
Operating expenses are stated after charging:-

	Financial year ended					
	27th April 1979	2nd May 1980	1st May 1981	30th April 1982	29th April 1983	1983
Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Directors' emoluments	83	78	110	120	197	197
Commission to Directors for loss of office	(1)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(1)
Depreciation and loss on sale of fixed assets	267	356	435	489	541	541
Depreciation of leased assets	(1)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(6)	(6)
Wear of plant and equipment	31	15	23	12	9	9
Auditors' remuneration	9	10	16	12	23	23
Research and development	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

\*Comparative figures for research and development costs are not available for the financial years ended 27th April, 1979 and 2nd May, 1980.

(b) Net interest payable  
Net interest payable represents:-

	Financial year ended					
	27th April 1979	2nd May 1980	1st May 1981	30th April 1982	29th April 1983	1983
Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Long-term loan	(1)	(144)	(280)	(253)	(198)	(198)
Medium-term loan	(1)	(18)	(7)	(3)	(5)	(5)
Bank overdraft	(1)	(11)	(15)	(94)	(18)	(18)
Hire purchase and finance charges on leased assets	(1)	(8)	(42)	(65)	(55)	(55)
Others	(1)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(1)

(c) Taxation  
The charge for taxation, based on profits for the financial years, comprises:-

	Financial year ended					
	27th April 1979	2nd May 1980	1st May 1981	30th April 1982	29th April 1983	1983
Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Corporation tax payable	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Married man's tax	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Advance corporation tax within 90 days recoverable	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Others	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

The taxation charge for the financial year ended 29th April, 1983 has been reduced by £16,000 relating to the excess of its allowances over depreciation, stock appreciation relief and other timing differences for which, in accordance with the Group's accounting policy, no deferred taxation has been provided.



Bespak plc - continued

(iv) Extraordinary charges
The extraordinary charges in the financial year ended 31st May, 1981 represent redundancy costs and in the financial year ended 29th April, 1983 represent the cost of obtaining permission to deal in Bespak's Ordinary shares on the Unlisted Securities Market in November, 1982.

Table showing Dividends paid by Bespak plc for financial years ended 27th April 1979, 2nd May 1980, 1st May 1981, 30th April 1982, and 29th April 1983. Columns include amounts payable and rates per share.

Table showing Movements on reserves for financial years ended 27th April 1979, 2nd May 1980, 1st May 1981, 30th April 1982, and 29th April 1983. Rows include retained profit and capitalization of reserves.

(vi) Earnings per share
Earnings per share have been calculated on the 10,500,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each in issue and on the profits after taxation and before extraordinary charges for each year.

3. Statements of source and application of funds

Table showing Source of funds and Application of funds for financial years ended 27th April 1979, 2nd May 1980, 1st May 1981, 30th April 1982, and 29th April 1983. Rows include source of funds, application of funds, and movement in working capital.

4. Balance sheets

The balance sheets of the Group and of Bespak at 29th April, 1983 were as follows -

Table showing Balance sheets for the Group and Bespak at 29th April 1983. Columns include Notes, The Group, and Bespak. Rows include fixed assets, current assets, and liabilities.

Notes on the balance sheets

(a) Fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation, as follows -
(a) The Group
(b) Bespak

(a) Patents and trade marks

Patents and trade marks are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, as follows -

Table showing Patents and trade marks for the Group and Bespak at 29th April 1983.

(a) Investment in related company

In February, 1982 Bespak acquired a 50 per cent interest in the issued ordinary share capital of Whitleight which is involved in developing a new rolling mill system and fibre shock extrusion for use in rolling ball bearing instruments.

(a) Stocks and work in progress

The loans to subsidiaries are interest free with unspecified repayment terms but are regarded by Bespak as long term capital of £581,000.

(vi) Proposed dividend

The proposed dividend of 2p per share is payable on 6th October, 1983.

(vii) Loan commitments

Bespak's loan commitments at 29th April, 1983 were -

Table showing Loan commitments for the Group and Bespak at 29th April 1983.

Accumulated capital allowances

Short-term timing differences and tax losses unutilized.

(v) Capital commitments

The capital commitments of the Group and of Bespak at 29th April, 1983 represented -

Capital expenditure that has been contracted for but has not been provided for in the accounts.

(vi) Director's loan

A loan of £1,200 was made to Mr. L. J. Kings on 23rd December, 1982. The amount outstanding at 29th April, 1983 was £720.

1. Accounting policies

(a) General

The current cost accounts have been prepared in accordance with SSAP 16, and except as stated below, under the same accounting policies as those adopted for the historical cost accounts.

(b) Current cost operating adjustments

The averaging method has been applied in calculating the cost of sales and monetary working capital adjustments, using published price indices.

(c) Depreciation adjustment

2. Consolidated current cost profit and loss accounts

The profit and loss accounts of the Group for the two financial years ended 30th April, 1982 and 29th April, 1983 are as follows -

Table showing Consolidated current cost profit and loss accounts for financial years ended 30th April 1982 and 29th April 1983.

Notes to the consolidated current cost profit and loss accounts

(a) Current cost operating adjustments

Additional depreciation, cost of sales, and monetary working capital.

(b) Current cost earnings per share has been calculated on the 10,500,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each in issue and on the current cost profit after taxation and before extraordinary charges for each year.

3. Consolidated current cost balance sheet of the Group

The consolidated current cost balance sheet of the Group at 29th April, 1983 was as follows -

Table showing Consolidated current cost balance sheet of the Group at 29th April 1983.

Notes to the consolidated current cost balance sheet

(a) Fixed assets

Intangible assets, land and buildings, plant and equipment.

(b) Current cost reserve movement

Opening reserves, movements in the year, and closing reserves.

(v) Financing of current cost net operating assets

The following summarizes the net operating assets on the current cost basis and the method by which these assets were financed.

Table showing Financing of current cost net operating assets for financial years ended 30th April 1982 and 29th April 1983.

Ernst & Whinney

Chartered Accountants.

Hogg Bullmore & Co. Chartered Accountants.

Appendix II - Statutory and General Information

1. The Company

The Company was incorporated in England as a private company on 22nd March, 1981 under the name of Acon Industries Limited and on 20th March, 1982 changed its name to Bespak Industries Limited.

(b) sub-divided each of the issued and unissued Ordinary shares of £1 each into 10 Ordinary shares of 10p each.

(c) authorized the Directors generally to allot shares up to the nominal value of the Company's authorized but unissued share capital following the granting of such authority at any time before 31st October, 1985.

(d) authorized the Directors until 21st May, 1984 to allot shares for cash otherwise than pro rata to existing shareholders in proportion to their existing shareholdings.

(e) in connection with rights issues; and

(f) up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to five per cent. of the nominal value of the Company's authorized share capital; and

(g) adopted new Articles of Association.

On 8th August, 1983 the Company issued 200,000 Ordinary shares as fully paid to R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull as consideration for the acquisition of approximately 27 per cent. of the issued share capital of R. C. Bull Rubber Co. Limited.

2. Subsidiary and related companies

The Company has the following subsidiaries and related companies (each of which is a private company) -

Table showing Subsidiary and related companies with columns for Name, Date of incorporation, Country of incorporation, Paid-up share capital, and Percentage owned by the Company.

3. Directors and other interests

(a) The interests of the Directors and their families (all beneficial) in the share capital of the Company as shown by the Register maintained under the provisions of the Companies Act 1967 are as follows -

Table showing Interests of Directors and their families in the share capital of the Company.

(b) The Directors are not aware of any person, other than those named above, who has an interest representing 5 per cent. or more of the Company's issued share capital.

4. Service Agreements

The following Service Agreements, all dated 22nd November, 1982, have been entered into by the Company -

(a) with Mr. A. Schumann, to act as Managing Director of the Company at a current salary of £20,000 per annum;

(b) with Mr. G. E. H. Dingley, to act as Finance Director of the Company at a current salary of £24,000 per annum;

(c) with Mr. P. J. Dunne, to act as Marketing Director of the Company at a current salary of £23,000 per annum;

(d) with Mr. L. J. Kings, to act as Manufacturing Director of the Company at a current salary of £22,000 per annum;

(e) with Mr. L. A. Saunders, to act as Engineering Director of the Company at a current salary of £22,000 per annum; and

(f) with Mr. M. A. Schumann, to act as Planning Director of the Company at a current salary of £20,000 per annum.

Each Service Agreement is for an initial period of 3 years from 1st November, 1982 but may be extended thereafter and the Director has each case agreed to devote the whole of his time and attention to the business and affairs of the Group. Each Director will also receive certain other benefits and a bonus equal to one half of one per cent. of the annual profit before taxation and extraordinary items of the Company subject to a maximum of 25 per cent. of his basic salary. The salaries will be reviewed annually in each case.

Save for the above Agreements there are no Agreements in force for any Director of the Company with more than 12 months unexpired which cannot within the next 12 months be terminated by the Company without payment of consideration other than statutory compensation.

5. Articles of Association

The Articles of Association of the Company contain provisions (inter alia) to the following effect -

(a) Subject to compliance with the provisions of the Companies Acts 1948 to 1981, the Company may purchase any of its own shares and may issue shares on terms such that they are able to be redeemed.

(b) The rights attached to any class of shares may be varied or abrogated either with the written consent of the holders of not less than three-fourths of the issued shares of the class or with the sanction of an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a separate Meeting of the holders of the shares of the class.

(c) Save for the above Agreements there are no Agreements in force for any Director of the Company with more than 12 months unexpired which cannot within the next 12 months be terminated by the Company without payment of consideration other than statutory compensation.

6. Borrowing Powers

(a) The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and uncalled capital or any part thereof and to issue debentures and other securities. The Board is to ensure that the aggregate amount of the outstanding indebtedness of the Company in respect of debentures or other securities (excluding intra-Group borrowings) shall not at any time, without the previous sanction of the Company in General Meeting, exceed an amount equal to twice the aggregate of the amount paid up on the issued share capital of the Company and the amount of the undrawn reserve of the capital and reserves of the Company and of its subsidiaries, all as shown by the latest audited consolidated balance sheet but adjusted as set out in the Articles.

Directors

(a) A Director is not required to hold any qualification shares.

(b) The fees payable to the Directors are to be determined by the Company in General Meeting (unless otherwise determined) divided amongst the Directors as the Board agrees and having regard to the performance of each Director as determined to be repaid all travelling and hotel expenses incurred by them respectively in or about the performance of their duties as Directors. If by arrangement with the Board any Director performs any special duties outside his ordinary duties as a Director, the Board may pay him special remuneration (in addition to any fees or ordinary remuneration) which may be by a lump sum or by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise.

(c) The Board may establish and maintain any contributory or non-contributory pension or superannuation funds for the benefit of, or give or procure the giving of donations, gratuities, pensions, allowances or emoluments to, any persons who are or were employed by any company in, or associated with, the Group or who are or were directors or officers of any such company and who held or have held salaried employment or office in such company, and the families and dependants of any such persons.

(d) A Director may be appointed by the Board to the office of Managing Director and/or any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor) for such period, on such terms and at such remuneration as the Board may determine.

(e) No Director or intending Director is disqualified by his office from contracting with the Company nor is any contract or arrangement entered into on behalf of the Company in which any Director is in any way interested liable to be avoided nor is any Director so contracting or being so interested liable to account to the Company for any profit realized thereby, but the nature of his interest must be declared by the Director at a meeting of the Board.

(f) Save as provided below, a Director may not vote in respect of any contract or arrangement or any other proposal whatsoever in which he has any material interest otherwise than by virtue of his interests in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company. A Director will not be counted in the quorum of a meeting in relation to any resolution on which he is so disqualified from voting.

(g) A Director is (in the absence of some other material interest than is indicated below) entitled to vote (and will be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters, namely -

(a) the giving of any security or indemnity to him in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him as the request of or for the benefit of the Company or of any subsidiary of the Company or of any other company;

(b) the giving of any security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

(c) the giving of any security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company or purchase or acquisition of shares or other securities of or by the Company or any of its subsidiaries for subscription or purchase as which offer he is or is to be interested as a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting thereof;

(d) any proposal concerning any other company in which he is interested directly or indirectly and whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise, provided that he is not the holder of or beneficially interested in 1 per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company (or of any third company through which his interest is derived) or of the voting rights of the relevant company;

(e) any proposal concerning the adoption, modification or operation of a superannuation fund or retirement, death or disability benefits scheme under which he may benefit and which has been approved by or is subject to and conditional on approval by the Board of Inland Revenue for taxation purposes.

(f) Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (providing fees or varying the terms of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately. In such case each of the Directors concerned (if not disqualified from voting under paragraph (g) above) is entitled to vote in relation to any resolution on which he is so disqualified from voting.

(g) The Company may by Ordinary Resolution suspend or vary the provisions aforesaid under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) above in any manner or restrict any transaction not duly authorized by reason of a contravention of such provisions.

A Director is not disqualified from holding office by reason of his having reached the age of 70 and no special notice is required of any resolution appointing or approving the appointment of a Director who has reached the age of 70.

7. Taxation

(a) The Directors have been advised that upon admission of the Ordinary shares to the Official List the Company will not be a close company within the meaning of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

(b) Clearances have been obtained in respect of all completed accounting periods of the Company and its subsidiaries up to and including 30th April, 1982, pursuant to paragraph 16, Schedule 16, Finance Act 1972, in relation to the close company apportionment provisions; and

(c) Under a Deed of Indemnity dated 22nd November, 1982 between the nine Vendor Shareholders named therein (the Vendor Shareholders) (1), Bespak, (2), and Hambros & Co., the Vendor Shareholders have given to Hambros, the Company, Bespak and Bespak's indemnities in respect of estate duty, capital transfer tax, income tax, surtax and shortfall liabilities.

8. Material contracts

The following contracts, not being contracts in the ordinary course of business, have been entered into within the period of two years immediately preceding the date hereof and are or may be material -

(a) dated 18th February, 1982 between J. P. Cladding-Bod (1), Mrs. M.V.M. Cladding-Bod (2), Whitleight (3) and the Company (4), being an agreement for the subscription by the Company for 2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each of Whitleight (5) (or if so issued then for the subscription by the Company for an aggregate consideration of £2,000); and

(b) dated 2nd November, 1982 between the Company (1), the Vendor Shareholders (2), the Directors (3) and Hambros & Co. (4) being the Placing Agreement under which Hambros agreed to purchase 2,750,000 Ordinary Shares at a price of 7½p each and to place the same with institutional and other investors, at the price of 75p per share. Under this Agreement the Company agreed to pay to Hambros a fee of £11,875 together with legal costs and certain out of pocket expenses.

(c) the Deed of Indemnity referred to in paragraph 6 (g) above.

(d) dated 18th July, 1983 between R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull (1), R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull (2) and the Company (3), being an agreement for the purchase by the Company of 200,000 Ordinary Shares and 200,000 Deferred Shares (50 per cent of £1) of R. C. Bull Rubber Co. Limited ("RUB") from R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull conditionally, inter alia, upon the registration of RUB as a limited company in England and the issue of 200,000 Ordinary Shares of Bespak, and dated 18th August, 1983 between R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull, R. C. Bull and D. G. T. Bull (1), the Company (2) and (3) being a Shareholders' Agreement relating to the manner in which the business of RUB will be conducted while any member of the Group is a shareholder of RUB. The Agreement contains a right for Bespak to appoint a Director of RUB and sets out certain matters in relation to RUB which will require Bespak's consent.

9. Working capital

The Directors are satisfied that, taking into account the bank facilities available, the Group has sufficient working capital for its present requirements.

10. Miscellaneous

(a) No capital of the Company (or except for capital issued to or owned by the Company or a wholly-owned subsidiary of any subsidiary has been issued, or is proposed to be issued, fully or partly paid either for cash or for a consideration other than cash; and

(b) no commissions, discounts, brokerage or other special terms have been granted in connection with the issue or sale of any share or loan capital of the Company or of any subsidiary;

(c) No capital of the Company or of any subsidiary is under option or is agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be put in option.

(d) The Directors are generally authorized to allot shares, up to a maximum nominal amount of £428,950 (being the authorized but unissued share capital of the Company). There is no present intention to issue any of such share capital and without the prior approval of the shareholders in general meeting.

(e) no material issues of shares (other than to shareholders pro-rata to their existing holding) will be made within one year of the date of this document; and

(f) no issue of shares will be made which would effectively alter the control of the Company or the nature of its business.

(g) No Director of the Company -

(i) is materially interested in any contract or arrangement subsisting at the date hereof which is significant in relation to the business of the Group taken as a whole; and

(ii) has, or has had within the two years immediately preceding the date of this document, any interest, direct or indirect, in any assets which within such period have been or are now proposed to be acquired or disposed of or loaned to or by any company in the Group, except for shares purchased at or around market value by respectively L. A. Saunders and Mr. W. E. Warren.

(h) The aggregate emoluments of the Directors of the Company for the financial year ended 29th April, 1983 amounted to £198,825 and are expected to amount to approximately £240,000 in respect of the financial year ending 29th April, 1984.

(i) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is engaged in any litigation or arbitration of material importance and no litigation or claim of material importance is known to the Directors to be pending or threatened against the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

(j) There have been no material changes in the trading or financial position of the Group since 29th April, 1983 other than the annual or normal trading profits.

(k) The expenses of and incidental to the introduction of the Company's shares to the Official List payable by the Company are estimated to amount to £30,000 (including VAT).

(l) The financial information contained in the accounts' report does not amount to full individual accounts within the meaning of Section 11 of the Companies Act 1981. Full individual accounts relating to each accounting reference period to which the financial information relates have been or will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The auditors have made a report under Section 14 of the Companies Act 1987 in respect of each set of accounts and each such report was unqualified report within the meaning of Section 43 of the Companies Act 1980.

11. Consents

Ernst & Whinney and Hogg Bullmore & Co. have given and not withdrawn their respective written consents to the issue of this document with copies of their joint report and the references to them included herein in the form and content in which they are respectively included.

12. Documents for inspection

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection at the offices of Norton, Rose, Bottenell & Roche, Kempton House, Canonville Street, London EC2A 7AN, during normal business hours until 12th September, 1983.

(a) the audited consolidated accounts of the Company for the financial years ended on 30th April, 1982 and 29th April, 1983;

(b) the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;

(c) the above-mentioned joint report of Ernst & Whinney and Hogg Bullmore & Co. and statement of adjustments;

(d) the above-mentioned material contracts and service agreements; and

(e) the above-mentioned written consents of Ernst & Whinney and Hogg Bullmore & Co.

Dated 15th August, 1983.

Handwritten signature in Arabic script: محمد بن الأصيل



THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End, Sept 2; Contango Day, Sept 5; Settlement Day, Sept 12.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

USM REVIEW THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS EVERY MONDAY

Main table with columns for Stock, Price, Chg, Gross Div, Div Yld, P/E, Capitalization, Company, and various financial metrics. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS, COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, DOLLAR STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Exchange rates could trim Unilever profits

Unilever will provide the focus of attention in a quiet week for company news when it reports half-year figures tomorrow.

As the holiday season hits its peak, Horizon Travel reports its interim results on Wednesday.

Johnson Group Cleaners is expected to report interim pretax profits of about £3m on Thursday.

Price increases and better volume have combined to boost margins on the dry cleaning side while the US is expected to have produced a small profit this year against losses in 1982.

Friday sees full-year results from Waring and Gillet, the furniture and carpet retailer whose shares ride a roller coaster of takeover speculation.

ECONOMIC VIEW Looking for the M1 reaction

The reaction of financial markets to last Friday's better-than-expected US money supply figures will be keenly awaited this week.

This, in turn, could lead to some easing in the dollar's strength. After its precipitate recent rise, the dollar was already softening at the end of last week.

And a more stable or weaker dollar would certainly come as a relief to European countries which have seen their own currencies fall sharply against the dollar despite costly attempts at intervention.

Britain has so far largely escaped the impact of the dollar's remarkable recent surge and the upward trend in US rates.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Chg, Gross Div, Div Yld, P/E, Capitalization, Company, and various financial metrics. Includes sections for OIL, PROPERTY, RUBBER, and TEA.



Britain leaves the best till last in Helsinki

Supreme Cram, serene Miss Decker

From David Miller, Helsinki

Within the space of 25 minutes in the first world championships yesterday, two notable crams came to a close. Mary Decker, who runs from the front with a serene gracefulness...

content to shadow Aouita at the back of the flock. Overt looked comfortable, as indeed he should at such pace, with two laps to go, at which point Becker (West Germany) had pushed up with the leaders...

It remains to be seen whether Ovi, who is a year younger than Cram, can remount a challenge in next year's Olympics...

At no time in any of his major victories between 1977 and 1981 had Overt ever been more than two or three yards off the leading pace...

The men who took the four-lap medals were those who have the best credentials over two laps, and that is always likely in contemporary racing...

There is a passage in a recent book on Daley Thompson called "The Subject is Winning"...

There had been a poignancy in Mary Decker winning the women's race while her estranged husband and coach, Ron Tabb, unaware of events back at the stadium was for a time leading the marathon before finishing eighteenth...

There is a passage in a recent book on Daley Thompson called "The Subject is Winning" by Skip Rozen, in which the world's great all-round athlete says that he owes the public nothing...

Intoxicating taste of the good life for Mrs Cook

From Pat Butcher

The first world championships ended here yesterday on a swish of Sibella white bellinaria skirts, the gleam of gold and bronze for Britain's athletes, and a flash of green from an old friend, Eamonn Coghlan, of Ireland.

But... what we hoped was that after two fourth places in consecutive Olympic Games, Coghlan would finally win something...

The pace had become as pedestrian in the third kilometre as the first lap of the 1,500 metres had been. Julian Goater, Britain's only remaining athlete in the final, took a lead of around 15 metres with only five laps to go...

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Yet, like Colin Reitz, they owe it to the tendency of some American athletes not simply to sway, but to fall down. Henry Marsh did fall over a barrier to let Reitz in for a bronze medal...

He was prepared afterwards to talk all night, it seemed, about his success: "It's good to know that I can do it outdoors as well," he said, referring to his world indoor mile record...

Allan Wells had the galling experience, as in Moscow, of losing by one hundredth of a second to Pietro Mennea...



White is bonnie but black is beautiful: Wells (centre) about to be outstripped by Smith

The man with all the talents

There is a passage in a recent book on Daley Thompson called "The Subject is Winning" by Skip Rozen, in which the world's great all-round athlete says that he owes the public nothing...

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Decker wins, Zaitsev falls: the ups and downs of a 1,500 metres final

Weekend results from Helsinki

Table with multiple columns listing various athletic events (Men, Women, Saturday Men) and their winners, including names like Cram, Decker, and Zaitsev.

MOTOR RACING

Triumph for Renault is led by victorious Prost

By John Blunden

Alain Prost took a valuable first step towards his eagerly sought World Championship yesterday when he won the Austrian Grand Prix by a margin of 6.8 seconds over Rene Arnoux...

The race looked likely to be a Ferrari benefit in the first half, with Tambay setting the pace and Piquet challenging Arnoux's second place...

Manzell, however, was a full lap behind at the finish, having fought a gallant battle with tyres which were no match for those worn by Renault...

After the mid-race pit stops, Piquet held a narrow lead ahead of Arnoux as Prost gradually closed in. On lap 38, with 15 to go, both Arnoux and Prost displaced Piquet...

AMERICA'S CUP

Australia II still on uneven keel

Newport, Rhode Island (Agencies) - High winds and rough seas forced the cancellation of the America's Cup trials for the second day...

James said the Dutch company which produced the keel rejected a request from the Freedom syndicate...

The message read in part: "Understand you and your team are responsible for development and design of special keel for Australia II..."

IN BRIEF

McEnroe falls to qualifier

Montreal (Reuters) - Anders Jarryd, of Sweden, ranked No 83 in the world, beat the No 1, John McEnroe...

POLO

Ingwenya leave it late

The finale of the national 17-goal championship, sponsored by Tizzle Dec, ended at Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire...

In the Neff Haig Cup final, the BB's were exceptionally beaten by the exceptionally better...

FOOTBALL

Scottish League Cup

First round: First leg: Berwick 2, Stranraer 0; Arbroath 0, Cowden 0...

BASEBALL

American League

Friday: Toronto Blue Jays 6, Milwaukee Brewers 4; Detroit Tigers 7, New York Yankees 6...

TENNIS

Santander

Swedish Open (women): Third place: Martina Navratilova 6-4, 6-2; 4th: Andrea Panatta 6-4, 6-2...

CYCLING

Life in the old Falcon

Sid Barras, the veteran and Falcon professional from York, retired after a few years but he has his sleeves when he won yesterday...

ATHLETICS

Southern League

First round: First leg: Brentford 1, Millwall 0; Bournemouth 0, Reading 0...

ROWING

Summer Regatta

Regatta: M. J. G. (Winton) 1, 2, 3; J. G. (Winton) 1, 2, 3; J. G. (Winton) 1, 2, 3...

ROD RUNNING

Victoria

Victoria: 1000m: 1. G. Mackintosh 2:00.00; 2. J. G. Mackintosh 2:00.00...

RACE WALKING

Victoria

Victoria: 1000m: 1. G. Mackintosh 2:00.00; 2. J. G. Mackintosh 2:00.00...

Both packed of his o

Tied up

King has

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Educational Appointments

THE FLINDERS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES LECTURER IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION (SOCIAL WORK)

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Horizons The Times Guide to career training A crisis could shape a career

It is a real test to guess whether A level candidates or their parents do more nail-biting at this time of year as exam results are published and there begins the free-for-all to squeeze into the few remaining places in higher education.

Despite the efforts of careers teachers and advisers, the six weeks following the results are a bedlam of crisis and uncertainty. What could be an orderly adjustment to a sensible contingency plan often ends up as panic and rout as parents scramble to find alternatives for their offspring.

Although the UCCEA system works tolerably well for university entry, the arrangements in other sectors of higher education could hardly have been worse planned. With a lack of coordination which effectively encourages students to behave irresponsibly in their applications, there is no sure way of knowing which places are going to be filled, particularly at polytechnics, until the first day of term.

The first question has to be whether higher education is necessarily the best thing. In a number of career areas there is a well-kept ladder to get in post at a level which is less expected and the competition may not be as tough, rather than delaying three or four years only to be in a melee with thousands of other fresh graduates.

When you make your decision, you need to make a quick excursion around the available options. You may well want to make use of UCCEA clearing but only a minority are likely to be successful there. Instead the time has come to delve into the world of polytechnics in Northern manufacturing towns, into the Higher National Diplomas of the Business and Technician Education Council, and the Diplomas in Higher Education - all of which entitle the students to mandatory awards and are fully part of the higher education provision.

Fortunately there are people available to help. Each year the Department of Education and Science coordinates the Advanced and Further Education Information Service (AFEIS) which provides up-to-date details of where vacancies are still on offer. Regular bulletins are sent out to Local Advisory Officers, numbering this year more than a thousand, who will be operating, mostly from the offices of Local Education Authority Careers Services. To get access to this vacancy information and to have an advisory interview all you need to do is contact the local Careers Service for an appointment.

If there is any consolation at all in overlooking a rethink of plans following A level then it is that it provides an opportunity to take stock of medium to long-term career goals. Because of the changes in the employment market, the tightness and competitiveness of traditional professions like the law, and the problems encountered by pure arts and social science graduates, it could well be that it is a better long-term bet to take a less fashionable degree or diploma course which is well-rooted in the real world and has good links, through sandwich or industrial placements, with industry or commerce.

In the next three articles in this series I shall examine in more detail the scope offered by these courses outside the ivory tower world of the University.

Next week Edward Fennell writes about vocational degree courses at polytechnics and institutes of higher education.

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The next six weeks can be a time of crisis and uncertainty for A level candidates who have not done well. In a series of four articles, Edward Fennell advises on how to make the best of a disappointing start in higher education.

Their method of selection has become more stringent. It could be argued that this is all to the good and that it was about time the calibre of students in higher education was raised so as to slice off the mediocre. It is an argument which is raising already especially as A level results have been shown to be falling, particularly at polytechnics, as there is a realistic claim that as a country we need to raise to a high standard as many young people as possible - even the mediocre, but meanwhile the immediate problem is how best to manipulate the system so as to get on a course which is going to be of long-term benefit.

The first question has to be whether higher education is necessarily the best thing. In a number of career areas there is a well-kept ladder to get in post at a level which is less expected and the competition may not be as tough, rather than delaying three or four years only to be in a melee with thousands of other fresh graduates.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1
6.00 Ceejay AM, News, sport, weather, travel information.
6.30 Breakfast Time. Frank Bough and Sue Cook share the sofa to introduce news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; morning papers delivered at 7.32 and 8.32; Family Finance feature (6.45-7.00) and Country with Glynis Christian (8.45-9.00).
6.00 Hey Look... That's Me! Chris Harris, that is, an eccentric entertainer who seeks out entertaining youngsters on his summer tour to New Zealand.

TV-am
6.25 Good Morning Britain. Nick Owen and Anna Diamond introduce news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 8.55; Sport 6.45, 7.45, 8.30; Morning papers at 7.00; Sunner summary from Irene Handl for Help the Aged 7.00; Diet with Diana Dora, 7.10 (from Friday); Star Romance at 8.05; Roland Rat, meanwhile, visits Oxford from 8.00.
ITV LONDON
9.25 Thames news headlines, followed by Sesame Street, 10.25 Science International, 10.35 News of My Friends, 11.00 News on News on News, 11.50 Cartoon Time.
12.00 We'll Tell You a Story. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 12.30 The Questers. Brian Trueman sniffs out gnu users, from planet-matters to British Leyland, who have bonded together a 115 mph speed and alloy prototype giving an enviable 61 mpg.
1.30 The Chase.
1.30 The Chase.
2.30 News Nowhere to Hide (1977). US Marshall Lee Van Cleef must lead an 11-man team to avenge a woman's murder.



Her's Lucy: Lucille Ball (Channel 4, 6.30pm)

Two aspects of war, unfortunately overlapping each other tonight. THE ZIMBABWE TAPES (Radio 4, 8.00 pm), David Caine's drama documentary, is set amid the war between Rhodesia/Zimbabwe between 1976 and 1980. It concerns the role of propaganda and the refraction of truth. Peter Jeffrey plays a white farmer captured by Robert Mugabe's guerrillas and forced to record the war's progress. He is killed in an Argentinean air raid. Statistically, he was one of 250 British servicemen who forsook their lives for the Falklands. Tonight's report asks his widow when his loss has meant to the family, one of whom is a Marine cadet as his father once was. Mrs Evans recalls the happy scenes of reconciliation for other families when the Task Force returned.

BBC 2
6.05 Open University: Urban Development, 6.55 Maths: 2.20 Cancer, Terminal Care; 7.45 The Adam Smith Lecture; 8.10 Closedown.
10.30 Play School: Sophie and Jack (on BBC 1, 4.20) 10.55 Closedown.
4.15 Cricknet, continued Test coverage.
6.15 Tappan? Filles American television comedy. Respected banker Mr Tappan strikes gold in Alaska. Leo G Carroll stars.
6.40 Cartoon Time.
6.50 Six Fifty-five. Class in the courtyard, led by Barbara Cook. The play features a musical number, 'Averna songbook'. Julian Lloyd Webber, Rod Argent and the Gabriel String Quartet assist.
7.25 News summary, weather.
7.30 A Moment to Talk. No clocks, no clocks, no clocks. A moment to talk about that this week. The voiceless group invited by producer Philip Donnelly to speak their mind has much to complain about and plenty of time in which to do it. They are all unemployed Asians in Bradford.
7.45 G.E.D. Bend! Bend! Bend! (see Choice).
8.20 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. Another celebration of unusual powers, like those of Chikamasa Chung Ling Soo, whose show-stopping speciality was to catch on a plate marked bullets fired from a gun. Unfortunately he was killed presenting this feat at the Wood Green Empire in March 1918. Paul Daniels revives the act, though not the man who lived the ill-fated act 65 years ago.
8.30 Call My Bluff. White stars Frank Muir and Arthur Marshall, alloted Margaret Howard and Tim Rice, Ruta Lenska and Nigel Havers.
8.50 One Man and His Dog. Welsh head of the sheepdog trials.
10.10 Mothers. Dr Anthony Clare to Moira, the former General Secretary of the NUR: "What do you mean, 'What do you mean, what was she like?' Dr Clare explains. Mr Weighall replies, 'Well, mother played the organ.' In factness to the good doctor, Mr Weighall did elaborate, crediting to her his brand of socialism as 'non-conformist, based on the Baptist chapel'. But it seems to me that this supposedly analytical episode has rarely lifted beyond the chat-show level.
10.50 Newsnight.
11.40 Cricknet: Test match highlights.
12.00 Open University: Landlife. River village slipped into the Rialta in 1951; 12.35 Finance of Social Community. With 1.00 pm. Under Peter Collins's direction.
12.40 Night Thoughts. Nightly meditations by Dr Urs Kroll.

CHOICE
pm), World in Action follows up the crucial role of housewife and mother Elaine Evans, whom we last met when her Royal Marine husband Ken had sailed off to war in the South Atlantic. "Like a bad penny, he'll probably turn up again", his worried wife reassured herself. But just four days after her prediction was fulfilled, she was killed in an Argentinean air raid. Statistically, he was one of 250 British servicemen who forsook their lives for the Falklands. Tonight's report asks his widow when his loss has meant to the family, one of whom is a Marine cadet as his father once was. Mrs Evans recalls the happy scenes of reconciliation for other families when the Task Force returned.

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Looking back with the Great Western

By Kenneth Gosling
When the photographers of the Great Western Railway went out with their cameras at the turn of the century they brought back not only pictures of trains, stations and newly-appointed station-masters but a unique record of life in town and country.

Their glass negatives gathered dust in hundreds of boxes stored at Paddington station, west London. Little of their work appeared on seaside posters or as views in railway carriages.

Now Mr Alan Brock, a photographic consultant, has begun cataloguing and processing a quarter of a million negatives retrieved from storage as part of a joint venture by British Rail and the Oxford Publishing Company.

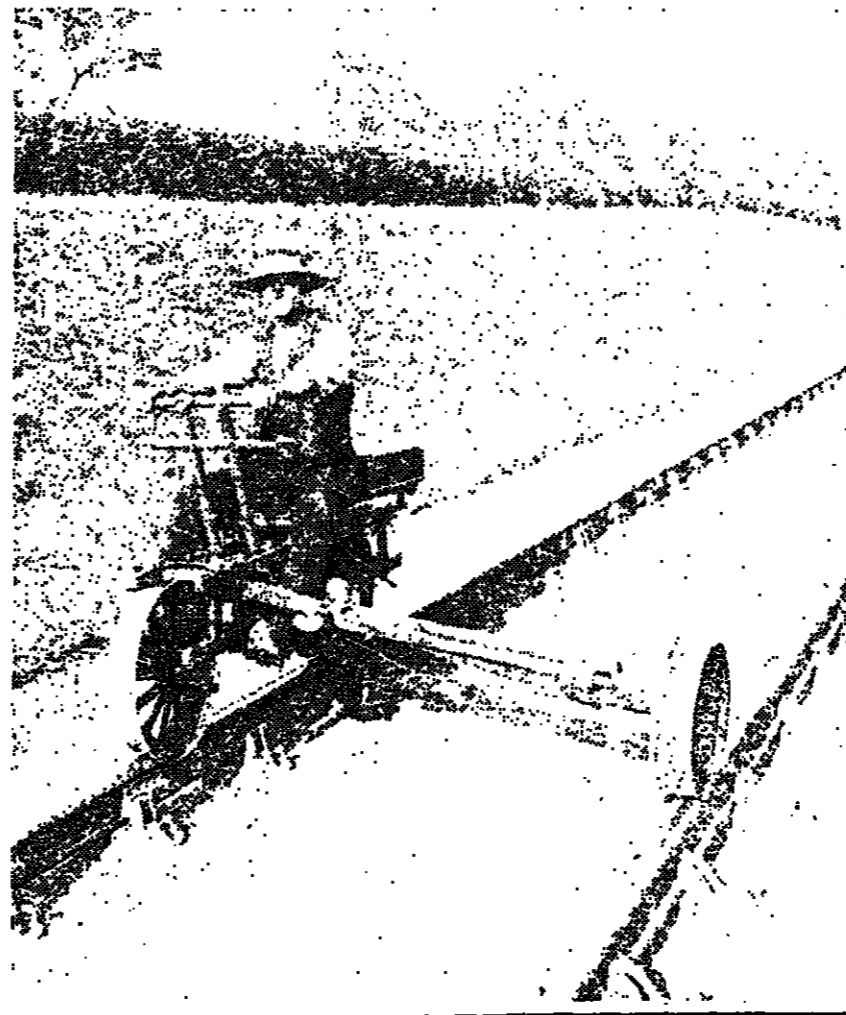
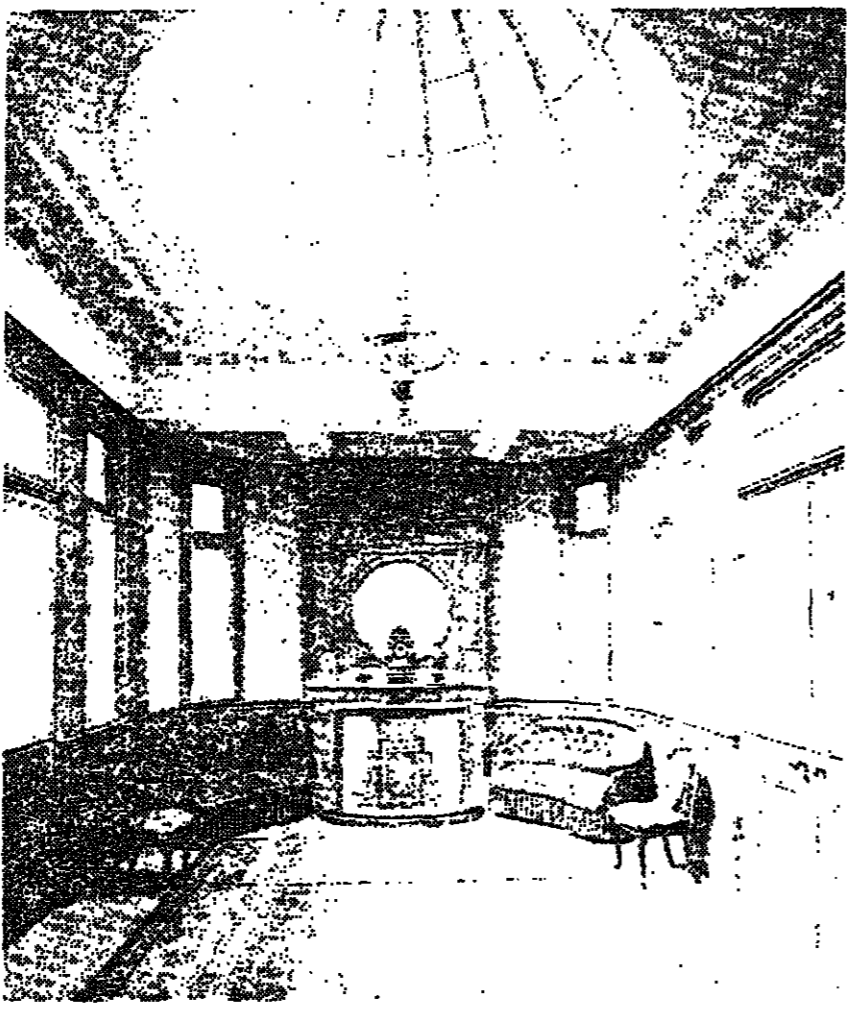
Mr Brock, aged 52, had twice been made redundant when he heard of the collection. His task could last many years and it is bound to add immeasurably to pictorial knowledge of British life between the late 1850s and the 1940s.

The pictures include many that are not identified because photographers did not list them. The ladies having a chat look Welsh but Mr Brock cannot be certain.

Mr Brock has already produced subject lists of many categories in the collection. From one ledger alone he produced 10,000 items. His lists are available to anyone who cares to send him a stamped self-addressed envelope to 302 Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth, Dorset.



Mr Brock: Cataloguing the past.



Letter from Moscow
Andropov breaks with the seaside routine

Where do Russian leaders go in summer? The traditional answer is the Black Sea, although in this (as in other things) Mr Andropov seems to have a style of his own. The first elite dachas at Sochi were built at the turn of the century. The Tsar's pseudo-Renaissance palace at Livadia, along the coast at Yalta, was completed in 1911. It served as the site of the 1945 Yalta conference, no doubt because Stalin liked the climate (even in February).

Mr Andropov has full access to the Poliburo Crimean dachas. But he seems to prefer to spend his leisure time (when he has any) in the mountains of his native Caucasus.

Mr Andropov has a new and fully-equipped dacha just outside Moscow, so that he can enjoy the woods and the Moscow River while being able to dash down to the Kremlin in a convoy of black limousines if the need arises. He also has a presidential flat not far from the city centre, on the same street as The Times office, but does not often use it, possibly because it now bears a plaque saying: "Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev lived here."

But when the sun sparkles above the mountain lakes and meadows of the Caucasus, Mr Andropov is drawn to the spa of Kislovodsk, about 3,000 ft above sea level. Kislovodsk is not far from the Soviet leader's birthplace in the Stavropol region.

It has long been a centre for the treatment of nervous and cardiac disorders, not to mention kidney complaints and diabetes, all of which sounds like a summary of Mr Andropov's last check-up. The spa was founded in 1823, and produces the only drinkable Russian mineral water, called Narzan. At the exclusive sanatorium at Red Stones (so named because of the red sandstone formations; there are also grey stones and blue stones) VIPs can take a rest cure while gazing at a backdrop of snow-capped peaks and mountain greenery.

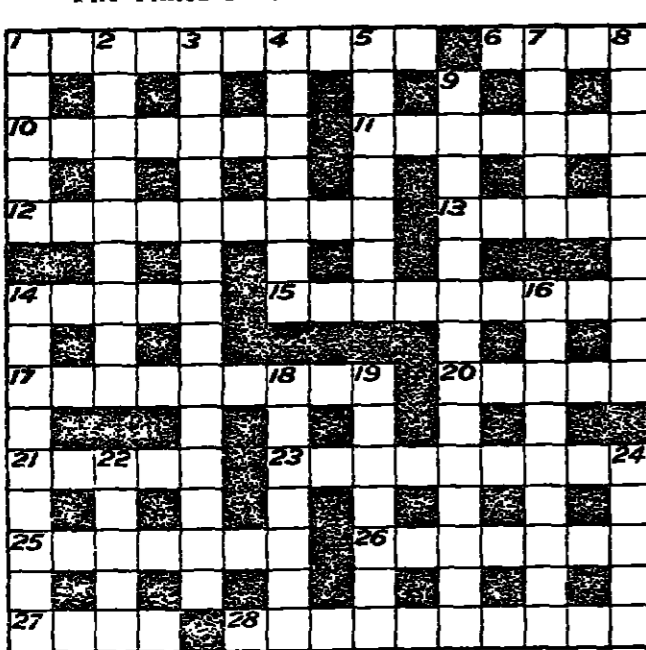
Or they can take the waters at the spa, with its English Gothic revival (1849) and Indian imperial (1903) style buildings. Both the spas in the Caucasus and the beach resorts of the Black Sea are popular with less elevated Russians, although the accommodation and service are somewhat less exclusive. In Russia there is no question of checking into the hotel of your choice. Factories and offices across the Soviet Union issue "houses of rest" and sanatoria. The conditions may be sparse, but puzovki are much sought after, and holidaymakers say they like kings for a few weeks compared to the drudgery of their daily lives. Most Russians expect their leaders to live well and do not seem to resent ostentatious privilege (not aloud at any rate).

As they sunbathe at Suchi and Sukhumi, Soviet holiday-makers are aware that their leaders enjoy a more luxurious lifestyle behind well-guarded walls, but say there is not much they can do about it and admit they would probably do the same if they were in power. In this sense, Mr Andropov, while satisfyingly stern and disciplinarian over public policy, is rather disappointingly austere and spartan in private life. Russians identify rather more with Brezhnev, who unashamedly enjoyed the good life. Not long before he died he invited a foreign communist leader to his Crimean dacha and sat with him on the vast and otherwise empty beach. Drinking cognac brought out by the dacha servants and listening to dissident songs on a portable gramophone, Brezhnev was observed by a Moscow intellectual who was holidaying on a VIP beach near by. It is difficult to imagine the Narzan-sipping Mr Andropov either getting mellow on the beach or allowing anyone to get close enough to watch him.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,208



- ACROSS
1 Fine art that adds fictitious detail (10).
6 Polish enthusiast (4).
10 Early stages Wordsworth connected with heaven (7).
11 Sound advice to act as old magistrate, so as to dispossess (7).
12 Angry about nearly all French hangers-on (9).
13 Makes flat for senior churchman in quarters (5).
14 A cast n's a pleasure to have (5).
15 Science of words is gloomy yet needs revision (9).
17 Dangerous line for those seeking promotion in Lilliput (9).
20 One-man drawing device (5).
21 In which Hengist and Horsa break a sword (5).
23 Boy meets girl - divine intuition (9).
25 How to hold something you mustn't touch (2,5).
26 One held by landlord as a man of property (7).
27 How minute a bird can be (4).
28 The fly in the Cock Robin affair (3-7).

- DOWN
1 Roman magistrate rising to suppress a letter (5).
2 Sulting - and what it should do when made up (9).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No. 16,207 will appear next Saturday

CONCISE CROSSWORD, PAGE 8

Today's events

Exhibitions in progress
Paintings by Dennis Knight and Constance Stubbs. The Hadleigh Gallery (Odds & Ends Scullery), 131 High Street, Hadleigh, Ipswich. Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 3 to 5, closed Wed afternoon (until Sept 3).
Local Look: Countryside exhibition. Brook, Isle of Wight. Mon to Sat 10.30 to 6.30, Sun 2.30 to 6 (until Aug 31).

Through Children's Eyes. Arts Council exhibition, Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Hull. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (until Sept 11).

Last chance to see
Works by Susan Horsfield and Herbert Morel. Halesworth Gallery, Sleepie End, Halesworth, Suffolk. Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Friday).

Talks, lectures
Kenya and Uganda, by Mike Knowles, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 10.30.

Music
Orphan recital by Rowland Cotterill, Coventry Cathedral, 1.05. Douglas Town Band, Sea Terminal, Douglas, Isle of Man, 8.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000, 3KX 918653 (the winner comes from Norfolk); £50,000, 10KN 743934 (Norsey); £25,000, 22ZN 322904 (London borough of Haringey).

The pound

Table with exchange rates for various countries including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, and Yugoslavia.

Retail Price Index 336.5. London: The FT index closed down 3.3 on Friday at 722.1. New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 8.44 on Friday at 1182.83.

The Times/Halifax house price index

Table showing monthly index average of second-hand houses (seasonally adjusted) for various months from December 1977 to June 1983, including average price and percentage change.

Average house prices rose by 1.7 per cent in July taking the Times/Halifax House Price Index to a new high of 198.6. The average price of second-hand dwellings (seasonally adjusted) is now just over £23,000, nearly 4.5 per cent higher than three months ago and just over 12.5 per cent above 1981 year's level. On an unadjusted basis, the average price of second-hand dwellings again rose sharply over the month by 3.1 per cent to just over £23,000. Regionally, the West Midlands, Wales and East Angles recorded the largest percentage increases (unadjusted) over the past three months with rises over 10 per cent. Although Greater London continues to record an increase in price of around 3 per cent, average prices on the South-East rose by nearly 5.5 per cent between May and July just over £41,000.

Nature notes

Herons still stand on their nests, though their young are fully grown and can only be distinguished by their grey heads and rudimentary crests. Sometimes a flock of 10 or 12 will set off to feed together; they call to each other with a duck-like quack, rather than the usual deep honk of a solitary bird. Lapwings are beginning to arrive from the Continent; the first flocks consist mainly of young birds who have set off ahead of their parents. Starlings wheel in the air like swallows, pursue it flying insects. Blackbirds are moulting; they look like worn velvet cushions.

Roads

London and South-east: A13: Roadworks at Alford's Way junction of Movers Lane, Barking. A308: Temporary lights at Staines Road East, Sunbury, 9.30am to 4pm. A10: Single lane off-peak at Wadesmill, Hertfordshire. Midlands: A1: Lanes closed at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire. A38: One carriageway shared on Burton upon Trent bypass; diversion at Clay Mill. A49/A468: Roadworks at Belmont roundabout, Hereford; diversion. North: A1: Roadworks on south Belford bypass, Northumberland. A66: Repairs on Eden Bridge, Kirkby Murre, Cumbria. A53: Roadworks on London Road South, Poynton, Cheshire. Wales and West: A5: Roadworks at Bethesda and Llanfair, Gwynedd. A420: Temporary lights at Lyncham (Acon Bridge), Wiltshire. A449: Single lane only north of Uak. Scotland: M74: Northbound carriageway shared between junctions 2 and 1 (Larkhall) and end of motorway/A66. Single lane, temporary lights SW of Loch Laggan. A902: Single lane southbound Quality Street, Glasgow. Information supplied by the AA.

Lighting-up time

London 8.54 pm to 5.17 am. Bristol 9.04 pm to 5.26 am. Edinburgh 9.21 pm to 5.18 am. Manchester 9.09 pm to 5.19 am. Penzance 9.12 pm to 5.42 am.

ANNIVERSARIES
Birch: Napoleone Bonaparte, 1769. More: Cambray, 1513. James Keir: Hardie, founder (1895) of the Independent Labour Party. Legbrannock, Lanarkshire, 1856; Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, composer, London, 1875.

Weather

Pressure will be low in N Britain and high in SE. A weak frontal trough will be over N Scotland.

London, Midlands, Central N and S, SE, E, SW England, East Angles, Channel Islands, Wales: Sunny, pleasant; wind SW, light or moderate, max 26 to 28C (79 to 82F). N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Bright or sunny periods; wind SW, moderate; max 22 to 24C (72 to 75F). Borders, East Angles, Cheshire, Shropshire: Mainly, or sunny intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max 21 to 23C (70 to 73F). SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Cloudy, rain in places, sunny intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).

Mersey, Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy at times, rain in places, some sunny intervals; wind SW, fresh or strong; max 15 to 17C (59 to 63F).

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SW, light to moderate; sea smooth to slight. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind light, variable, sea smooth. St George's Channel: Wind S, moderate or fresh; sea slight to moderate, sea moderate, locally rough.

Sun rises: 5.45am. Sun sets: 8.24pm. Moon rises: 2.14pm. Moon sets: 11.34pm. First quarter: 1.47pm.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 8 pm, 26C (79F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 15 (59F). Humidity: 6 pm, 48 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil in. Sun: 5hr to 6 pm, 12.7hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1012.1 millibars falling.

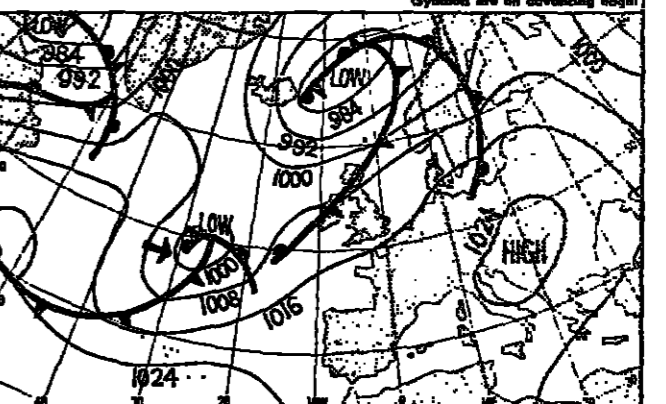
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Farnborough 27.5C (81.5F). Lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, 6.6C (43.9F). Highest night temp: Valley, 13.7C (56.7F). Lowest night temp: Cape Wrath, 6.6C (43.9F).

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions (Sun, Rain, Max, Min) for various locations across Britain including St Andrews, Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, etc.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars



High tides

Table listing high tide times for various locations including London Bridge, Aberdeen, Avonmouth, Belfast, Cardiff, etc.

Abroad

Table showing weather conditions (C, F) for various international locations including Alajuela, Alcala, Alcala de Henares, etc.

Yesterday

Table showing weather conditions (C, F) for various international locations including Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, etc.

TEACHER'S. A WELCOME AWAITING.

